



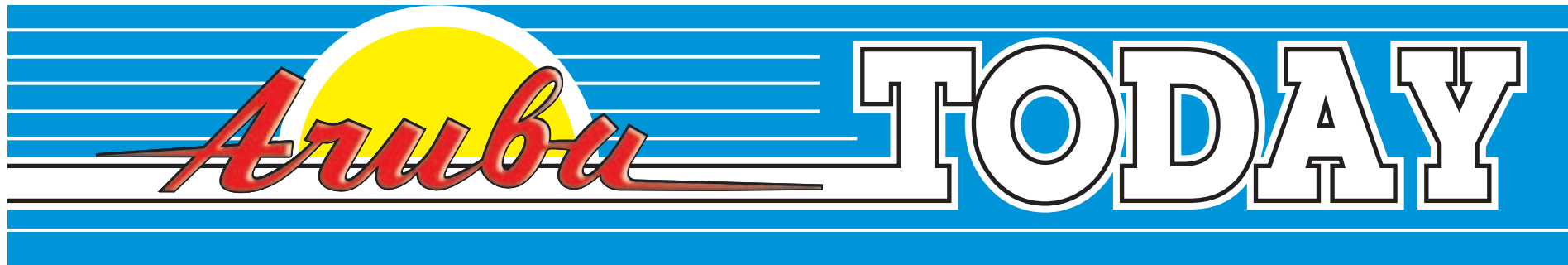
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FACE QUESTIONS
ON HIS RECORD**

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CHIEF MULALLY
SET TO RETIRE**

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On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel: +297 582-7800 Friday, May 2, 2014



Toronto Mayor Heads To Rehab

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Toronto Mayor Rob Ford leaves his home early Thursday May 1, 2014, in Toronto. Ford will take an immediate leave of absence to seek help for alcohol, he said, as a report surfaced about a second video of the mayor smoking what appears to be crack cocaine. (AP Photo/The Canadian Press, Frank Gunn)

Toronto Mayor heads to rehab

ROB GILLIES

Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — Toronto Mayor Rob Ford began a leave of absence and headed for a rehab center Thursday, leaving his scandalized city in the dark about his political future after a report surfaced of second video of him apparently smoking crack cocaine.

Ford announced Wednesday that he would take leave for an unspecified amount of time from both his mayoral post and his re-election campaign, but he did not abandon his bid for a second term as mayor of Canada's second largest

in North America but he declined to name the location. Morris said the 30 days could be extended. On Thursday morning, Ford left his west-end Toronto home in a two car-convoy without answering questions from reporters. His nephew was seen leaving the home with a suitcase. Ford, who was elected four years ago on a wave of support from Toronto's conservative suburbs, has for months been the subject of a drug-related police investigation, but he has not been charged with any crime.

The Toronto City Council stripped him of most of his

The Globe and Mail newspaper said it has viewed a second video of Ford smoking what appears to be crack cocaine in his sister's basement. The national newspaper said two Globe reporters viewed the video from a self-professed drug dealer showing Ford taking a drag from a pipe early Saturday morning.

The video is part "of a package of three videos the dealer said was surreptitiously filmed around 1:15 a.m., and which he says he is now selling for 'at least six figures,'" the paper reported. The Globe published still photos from the video and said it paid \$10,000 to



Doug Ford, brother and campaign manager for Toronto Mayor Rob Ford, reads from a prepared statement during a news conference at City Hall in Toronto on Thursday, May 1, 2014. Confronted with reports of a recent video showing him allegedly smoking crack cocaine, an audio recording of the mayor drunk, spewing profanities and making lewd comments about a fellow mayoral contender, and witness accounts of him snorting cocaine at a city nightclub, Rob Ford said he would be seeking "immediate help."

(AP Photo/The Canadian Press, Darren Calabrese)

city. One of his campaign rivals and other Toronto politicians demanded he resign. Toronto police said they were looking into the new video, which was reported by the Globe and Mail newspaper.

A day after announcing his decision, Ford boarded a plane for a treatment program outside Toronto that will last at least 30 days, his lawyer Dennis Morris told The Associated Press. The mayor's brother, Doug Ford, told the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. that Ford would enter a 30-day inpatient treatment at one of the best rehab facilities

powers last year.

In a statement Wednesday, he acknowledged having a problem with alcohol and said he would seek help — but he did not address the reported video or make any reference to crack cocaine.

"I have a problem with alcohol, and the choices I have made while under the influence," Ford said in statement late Wednesday. "I have tried to deal with these issues by myself over the past year. I know that I need professional help and I am now 100% committed to getting myself right."

the drug dealer.

News reports of an earlier video of Ford apparently smoking crack first surfaced last May.

The mayor denied the existence of that video for months but after police said they had obtained it, Ford acknowledged that he smoked crack in a "drunken stupor." He rebuffed intense pressure to resign and launched his re-election bid earlier this year. The first video has never been released to the public.

Continued on page 27

AROUND THE CARIBBEAN

Chikungunya spreading in Caribbean

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — Health experts say a recently arrived mosquito-borne virus is rapidly gaining a foothold in the Caribbean. Epidemiologists said this week there are currently over 4,000 confirmed cases of the fast-spreading chikungunya virus in the Caribbean. Another 31,000 cases are suspected. Concern about the painful illness is growing as many Caribbean countries enter their wettest months.

The virus most commonly found in Asia and Africa was first detected in December in tiny French St. Martin. Since then, it has spread to more than a dozen islands and French Guiana. □

Cuba protests US terror designation

HAVANA (AP) — Havana is protesting its continued inclusion on the U.S. government's latest list of "state sponsors of terrorism." Cuban Foreign Ministry issued a statement late Wednesday calling the designation absurd. It accused Washington of trying to justify the 52-year-old economic embargo against the island. The U.S. State Department's global terrorism report for 2013 notes that Havana is hosting peace talks between the Colombian government and that nation's biggest guerrilla army. The U.S. terror list also names Iran, Syria and Sudan. □

Protesters close major street in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — President Michel Martelly's critics have closed a major thoroughfare in Port-au-Prince. About 2,000 protesters snaked through the capital Thursday, calling on Martelly to resign and accusing him of corruption. Before being dispersed by riot police and UN peacekeepers, some demonstrators closed John Brown Avenue by scattering rocks across the roadway. It was the third large anti-government protest in a week. Several thousand demonstrators reportedly rallied Saturday in the northern city of Cap-Haitien, as well as on Monday. □

MLB to check Dominican ballplayers

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP) — MLB is getting a new tool to verify the ages and identifies of players from the Dominican Republic. The president of the Dominican Central Electoral Commission says league officials will be able to access its national database of names and biometric data. Roberto Rosario says it should help cut down on fraud among people aspiring to play professional baseball in the United States. Authorities are pledging to investigate document fraud involving players as part of an agreement signed with league officials on Thursday. □

Jamaica bank transaction tax dumped

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — Jamaica's finance minister says the government is scrapping a widely criticized plan to tax islanders' withdrawals from banks. Peter Phillips told Parliament on Wednesday that the proposed tax on bank transactions will be replaced with two new tax proposals — a 15 percent withholding tax on certain insurance premiums and a modification of tax rules for imported services. The idea of taxing individuals' withdrawals from banks prompted widespread criticism. The main opposition party threatened to call street demonstrations unless it was withdrawn. □

Kerry says Mideast peace process on 'pause'

LARA JAKES

AP National Security Writer
WASHINGTON/ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP) —

The United States was blindsided by a Palestinian deal with a militant group that led to the suspension of Mideast peace talks, Secretary of State John Kerry said Thursday, even as he voiced hope that negotiations would resume after a pause.

With talks on hold, a deadline this week for an agreement to keep the process going became "completely irrelevant," Kerry told reporters.

Kerry was careful to not blame either side for the halt, and he pointedly listed steps that both Israel and Palestinian leaders took in recent weeks that threw the process into uncertainty.

But he said a deal announced last week for Palestinian authorities to create a unity government with the militant group Hamas — and which spurred Israel to withdraw from peace negotiations — took the U.S. by surprise. That deal, Kerry said, "came as a complete and total unannounced event, without any heads-up, so to speak, at the moment of important negotiations," Kerry said at a news conference in the Ethiopian capital. It marked his first comments on the Mideast peace process since the April 29 deadline came and went.

Hamas has called for the destruction of the state of Israel and is considered a terrorist organization by the U.S., European Union and other countries worldwide. However, among Palestinians, the new agreement was hailed as a potentially historic step toward mending the rift that has split their people between two sets of rulers for seven years.

Even so, Kerry said that both Israeli and Palestinian leaders have signaled they want to find a way to continue negotiating.

"We believe the best thing to do right now is pause, take a hard look at these

things, and find out what is possible and what is not possible in the days ahead," Kerry said.

Meanwhile, in Tel Aviv, Israeli Prime Minister Ben-

jamin Netanyahu announced he would push for legislation to recognize Israel as a Jewish nation-state — a point that arose during the peace negotiations,

and one that the Palestinian leadership said it could never accept.

Kerry did not directly respond to a question in Ethiopia about whether

the U.S. was prepared to release its own blueprint for a comprehensive peace plan since Israel and Palestinians failed to come up with their own. □



Secretary of State John Kerry shakes hands with Egyptian Foreign Minister Nabil Fahmy at the State Department in Washington.

(AP Photo)



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Supporters say Keystone XL bill short of 60 votes

DAVID ESPO

AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate supporters of the long-delayed Keystone XL pipeline conceded Thursday they lack the 60 votes necessary to pass legislation authorizing immediate

construction of the project, but said they remain hopeful of prevailing.

"At this point we're still working to get 60," said Sen. John Hoeven, a Republican, as he and Sen. Mary Landrieu, a Democrat, introduced a bipar-

tisan bill to end the delays and build the proposed oil pipeline from Canada to the United States.

Landrieu, who chairs the Senate Energy Committee, faces a tough re-election challenge this fall, and has said she will use all her pow-

er to make sure the project is built.

In remarks on the Senate floor, she said supporters of the project think "there is so much potential for Canada, the U.S. and Mexico ... to become completely not only energy independent,

but an energy powerhouse for the world."

She added, "what signal does it send if America is not willing to do its part when it comes to production right here?"

In their statement, Landrieu and Hoeven said the legislation has the support of 11 Democrats and all 45 of the Senate's Republicans, a total of 56 of the 60 that will be needed in the 100-member chamber. "A vote on the bill is expected in the coming days," they added.

The obvious targets for additional support include six Democrats who voted in favor of a non-binding proposal 13 months ago that expressed general support for the project: Sens. Michael Bennet of Colorado, Bob Casey of Pennsylvania, Chris Coons of Delaware,

Tom Carper of Delaware, Tim Johnson of South Dakota and Bill Nelson of Florida.

Among the group, Casey noted he has twice before voted in favor of the project, and said it was "probably a good guess" to assume he will do so again.

Carper said he is undecided, and intends to meet with Landrieu, Hoeven and others in the coming days. Johnson, Coons and Nelson indicated Thursday they do not support the legislation to require construction.

In an interview, Johnson said he wants to know President Barack Obama's position. Ian Koski, a spokesman for Coons, said the lawmaker "believes the law makes clear that it's up to the (Obama) administration to make permitting decisions like this one," and not up to Congress. □



People walk among teepees set up on the National Mall in Washington, looking toward the Capitol. The Cowboy and Indian Alliance (CIA), a group of ranchers, farmers and indigenous leaders, hosted an encampment on the National Mall for a week's worth of "Reject and Protect" actions against the Keystone XL tar sands pipeline.

(AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta)

Oklahoma prison chief calls for execution review

SEAN MURPHY

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) —

The head of Oklahoma's Department of Corrections told Gov. Mary Fallin on Thursday that he needs more oversight of execution procedures and said it took officials 51 minutes to find a suitable vein before the botched execution earlier this week.

Clayton Lockett died of an apparent heart attack 10 minutes after prisons director Robert Patton halted the execution. The prisons chief said Lockett had an

intravenous tap placed at his groin because suitable veins couldn't be found elsewhere. That vein collapsed, and Patton said Lockett didn't have another vein that was suitable — and that the state didn't have another dose of the drugs available anyway.

The IV line was covered by a sheet because it had been placed at Lockett's groin, Patton said in his letter to the governor. No one noticed it had become dislodged until 21 minutes after the execution began and all of the execution

drugs had been injected into the line.

"The drugs had either absorbed into tissue, leaked out or both," Patton wrote. "The director asked the following question, 'Have enough drugs been administered to cause death?' The doctor responded, 'No.'"

After the doctor attending the execution found a faint heartbeat, Patton ordered the execution stopped. Lockett died anyway.

Madeline Cohen, an attorney for an inmate who had been scheduled to be

executed two hours after Lockett, said Oklahoma was revealing information about the events "in a chaotic manner."

"As the Oklahoma Department of Corrections dribbles out piecemeal information about Clayton Lockett's botched execution, they have revealed that Mr. Lockett was killed using an invasive and painful method -- an IV line in his groin," Cohen said in a statement. "Placing such a femoral IV line requires highly specialized medical training and expertise." □

Oil-train wreck brings demands for more regulation

ALAN SUDERMAN

M. FELBERBAUM

Associated Press

LYNCHBURG, Virginia (AP)

— The latest in a string of fiery oil-train wrecks brought renewed demands Thursday that the Obama administration quickly tighten regulations governing the

stronger rules to head off a catastrophe are long overdue.

In the latest crash, a CSX train carrying Bakken crude from North Dakota derailed Wednesday in downtown Lynchburg, sending three tanker cars into the James River and shooting flames

the U.S. and Canada in the past year involving trains hauling crude, and some of them caused considerable damage and deaths, according to the National Transportation Safety Board. Bakken crude ignites more easily than other types.

"Everybody is waiting on them and expecting some significant action," Grady Cothen, a former Federal Railroad Administration official, said after Wednesday's wreck. "It's a front-and-center concern on the part of everybody in rail transportation."

Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx has told lawmakers that regulators are working as quickly as they can to get tougher tanker car regulations written and approved.

But he said some oil companies have failed to provide the data he requested, and he complained that the agency within his department that regulates flammable liquids is understaffed.

"We have a million ship-

ments of hazardous materials moving around this country every day, and we have 50 inspectors," Foxx told The Associated Press recently.

The cause of the accident is under investigation by the NTSB. CSX said it is co-operating fully.

NTSB investigator Jim Southworth said the train was going 24 mph (38 kph) in a 25 mph (40 kph) zone at the time.

Tom Shahady, a professor of environmental science at Lynchburg College, said erosion around the tracks because of increased development may have contributed to the derailment.

On Thursday, crew used cranes and other heavy equipment to remove the cars. □



Firefighters and rescue personnel work along the tracks where several CSX tanker cars carrying crude oil derailed and caught fire along the James River in Lynchburg, Va., Wednesday, April 30, 2014. Nearby buildings were evacuated for a time, but officials said there were no injuries and the city on its website and Twitter said firefighters on the scene made the decision to let the fire burn out.

(AP Photo/Parker Michels-Boyce)

burgeoning practice of transporting highly combustible crude by rail.

With production booming in the Bakken oil field along the U.S. northern tier and in Canada, some experts say

and black smoke into the air. No one was injured, but the wreck prompted an evacuation and angered local residents and officials. There have been eight other significant accidents in

The NTSB and members of Congress have been urging the Transportation Department to work swiftly on new standards that would make tanker cars more rugged.

Slain German student's father criticizes US

BILL GORMAN

K. GRIESHABER

Associated Press

MISSOULA, Mont. (AP)

— The father of a 17-year-old exchange student shot dead in Montana departed the U.S. on Thursday after criticizing the nation's gun culture and arranging for his son's body to be flown back to Germany.

Celal Dede flew out of Missoula after securing the release of Diren Dede's body, which was transported from Montana on Wednesday afternoon, German consulate spokeswoman Julia Reinhardt said.

Before he departed, Celal Dede told the German

news agency dpa that he had never imagined his son could be shot for simply entering somebody's property. "America cannot continue to play cowboy," Celal Dede said.

Markus Kaarma, a homeowner in Missoula, Montana, on Sunday fired four blasts from a shotgun into his garage, killing Diren Dede who was inside. He faces a charge of deliberate homicide.

It's not clear what the teen was doing in the garage. Prosecutors allege Kaarma shot into his garage without warning after Dede tripped alarms.

Kaarma's attorney, Paul

Ryan, told The Associated Press Wednesday that his client plans to plead not guilty and was afraid for his life. Kaarma didn't know whether the boy was armed or what his intentions were when he entered the garage, Ryan said.

"The young man made a choice and put the wheels in motion that ultimately created this whole situation," Ryan said.

Celal Dede said he hoped Kaarma would receive a fair punishment.

"I didn't think for one night that everyone here can kill somebody just because that person entered his backyard," Dede said. □

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Buffett could be facing questions about performance

JOSH FUNK

AP Business Writer

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Warren Buffett's failure to beat the stock market in four of the past five years has raised the issue of whether Berkshire Hathaway's 83-year-old CEO has lost his touch.

Buffett is likely to face questions about the conglomerate's performance when more than 30,000 shareholders gather for Berkshire's annual meeting in Omaha, Nebraska, on Saturday.

It's not the first time people have wondered if Buffett is off his game. Criticism of Buffett reached its peak during the 1990s tech bubble because he refused to invest in dot-com businesses he didn't understand.



Billionaire investor Warren Buffett applauds during a seminar in Omaha, Neb. Buffett's failure to beat the stock market in four of the past five years has inspired debate about whether Berkshire Hathaway's 83-year-old CEO has lost his touch.

(AP Photo/Nati Harnik)

Berkshire's Class A stock sunk to roughly \$56,000 a share.

When the tech bubble

burst, many of those businesses failed while Berkshire continued to prosper through acquisitions and

investments. These days, Berkshire's A stock trades at more than \$193,000 a share.

Author and investor Jeff Matthews, who wrote "Warren Buffett's Successor:

Who It Is and Why It Matters," says criticism of Buffett is a byproduct of where the overall market is because Berkshire tends to trail a surging stock market. The Standard & Poor's 500 index soared 30 percent in 2013 and has nudged up another 2 percent this year. "Buffett always looks less exciting when everyone

else does great," Matthews says.

Many investors focus too much on recent history. Critics point out that Berkshire lagged the market in four of the past five years, based on Buffett's own yardstick. That measurement, Berkshire's book value, gained 18.2 percent in 2013, lagging S&P 500's rise of 32.4 percent, including dividends.

But that short-term view obscures the fact that Berkshire Hathaway has only trailed the S&P 500 10 times since Buffett took over in 1965. □

Applications for unemployment benefits highest since February

PAUL WISEMAN

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of Americans applying for unemployment benefits rose last week to the highest level since February, a dose of mixed news for an economy that appears to be gaining momentum.

The Labor Department said Thursday that a seasonally adjusted 344,000 people applied for benefits, up 14,000 from the previous week and the most since late February. The less-volatile four-week average rose by 3,000 to 320,000, a figure that's still consistent with a steadily improving job market. The number of people applying for benefits has risen three straight weeks, but Ian Shepherdson, chief economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics, said last week's numbers might have been warped by the Easter holiday.

"We think the underlying trend (in applications) is falling, but only slowly," Shepherdson wrote in a re-

search note.

Unemployment benefits are a proxy for layoffs, and they have fallen to pre-recession levels since peaking at 665,000 in March 2009.

Another Labor Department report shows that layoffs are running nearly 40 percent below their peak in 2009. Though they've stopped cutting jobs, employers have been slower to add new ones: Hiring remains well below pre-recession levels. Still, the United States economy generated a solid 192,000 jobs in March on top of 197,000 in February. The government releases job figures for April on Friday. Economists are forecasting that the economy generated 210,000 jobs last month.

The government reported Wednesday that the economy grew at an annual pace of just 0.1 percent from January through March. Economists blamed bad weather for the slowdown, which was worse than expected. □



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US construction spending rises 0.2 pct in March

JOSH BOAK

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. construction spending rose slightly in March, fueled by increases for apartments, single-family homes, factories, health care centers and office projects.

The Commerce Department said Thursday that construction spending increased just 0.2 percent in March after having fallen 0.2 percent in February. The March gains put construction at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$942.5 billion, an 8.4 percent increase year-over-year.

Construction spending dipped in January with the harsh winter weather and continues to run below its December 2013 levels.

Apartment construction spending increased 4.3 percent in March, while single-family home spending inched up 0.2 percent. Residential construction spending is at its strongest pace since May 2008, nearly five years ago.

Spending on government projects fell 0.6 percent, including a 2.3 percent drop for schools and educational buildings.

Despite the gains in residential construction, warmer weather has yet to produce much of a rebound for residential real estate.

Builders started work on 946,000 homes at a seasonally adjusted annual rate in March, up 2.8 percent from 920,000 in February, the Commerce Department said last month.

Applications for permits, a gauge of future activity, fell 2.4 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 990,000. □

US Financial Front:

America's consumer spending surged 0.9% in March

JOSH BOAK

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. consumers ramped up

The Commerce Department said Thursday that consumer spending rose 0.9 percent, the largest

from 0.3 percent. Consumers spent more on manufactured goods last month. Autos and furniture

March after rising 0.4 percent in February.

Higher spending points to stronger growth ahead because consumer activity accounts for roughly 70 percent of the economy. During last quarter as a whole, harsh winter weather curbed spending, and the economy barely grew at an annual rate of just 0.1 percent.

But Thursday's report suggested that last quarter's slowdown was confined mainly to January and February, before consumers stepped up spending in March.

For last quarter overall, consumer spending did grow at a 3 percent annual rate. But that gain was dominated by a 4.4 percent rise in spending on services, reflecting in part higher utility bills during the unusually cold winter.

Economists say warmer weather likely encouraged people to make purchases last month that they had delayed because of snowstorms earlier this year. □



Shoppers check out the sale at an ALDO store in the Mall at Robinson, in Robinson Township, Pa. The commerce department on Thursday, May 1, 2014 said U.S. consumers ramped up their spending in March at the fastest pace in 4½ years, a sign that the economy is gaining momentum after its winter slowdown.

(AP Photo/Gene J. Puskar)

their spending in March at the fastest pace in 4½ years, a sign that the economy is gaining momentum after its winter slowdown.

monthly gain since April 2009. The department also revised up its estimate of the spending increase in February to 0.5 percent

led much of the gains, according to a separate retail sales report released last month.

Income rose 0.5 percent in

US manufacturers expanded in April and filled jobs

C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. manufacturing grew faster in April than in March as exports picked up and factories accelerated hiring.

The higher reading adds to other evidence that manufacturers are expanding steadily after a sluggish start to the year. Solid factory output will likely boost economic growth in the coming months.

The Institute for Supply Management said Thursday that its manufacturing index rose to 54.9 from 53.7 in March. Any reading above 50 indicates expansion.

A gauge of hiring within the index jumped to 54.7 from 51.1 in March, a sign that factories added many more jobs in April. The government's jobs report for April will be released Friday. Manufacturers are benefiting from increased spending by consumers and businesses. Americans are buying more at retail stores and purchasing more cars after harsh winter weather had kept shoppers at home in January and February. Factories are also shipping more goods overseas. A measure of export orders rose to 57 in April from 55.5 in March.

Still, slower growth in China,

the world's second-largest economy, could slow demand for U.S. exports in coming months. China's manufacturing sector barely grew in April, according to a government report. A private survey found that factories in that country shrank in April for a fourth straight month.

The ISM's evidence of rising U.S. manufacturing coincides with reports that show economic growth is picking up this spring after a brutal winter. The economy barely expanded in the first three months of this year, growing at a scant 0.1 percent annual rate.

But Americans stepped up

their spending in March at the fastest pace in 4½ years, a government report showed Thursday. Auto sales also picked up that month.

And surveys have shown that Americans are more confident in the economy than they were during the bleak winter.

Greater spending should spur more factory production. Factories cranked out more furniture, clothes, chemicals and aircraft in March, according to a Federal Reserve report this month. Manufacturing output rose 0.5 percent after a 1.4 percent surge in February. □

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US Auto Sales: Pickups, small SUVs lead April rebound

DEE-ANN DURBIN
TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Writers

DETROIT (AP) — U.S. car buyers came out of hibernation in April to spend on pickup trucks and SUVs, fueling an auto sales rebound that analysts expect to last the rest of the year. Total sales grew to just under 1.4 million cars and trucks, up about 8 percent from a year ago. Sales ran at an annual rate of just over 16 million, according

and the Chevy Silverado pickup truck. And Hyundai sales rose a little more than 4 percent on strong SUV sales.

But there were some soft spots.

Honda sales grew only 1 percent, while Ford sales fell by a point. Ford's car sales sputtered, although sales of its F-Series pickup, the best-selling vehicle in the U.S., rose 7.4 percent. Sales at Volkswagen dropped 8.4 percent.

Analysts expect that April's sales pace was slightly slower than the rate in March, but should still translate into full-year sales of more than 16 million cars and trucks.

"It appears we are in a more stable environment, and the sun is shining," said Jesse Toprak, chief analyst for Cars.com. "We are now finally not stuck in first gear anymore."

Toprak expects the April sales pace to hold or improve slightly through the rest of the year. His full-year forecast calls for sales of 16.2 million.

U.S. buyers have continued their shift toward small SUVs.

At Ford, smaller SUVs accounted for 16 percent of U.S. sales in April, 2 percentage points higher than the same month last year, said Erich Merkle, the company's top sales analyst. Small-car sales fell two percentage points and mid-size car sales were flat.

"It is our estimation that both the midsize ... and small-car segments are being adversely impacted by continued really strong performance in the small utility category this year," he said.

Small SUVs are stealing sales from other parts of the market as well, especially with baby boomers who are downsizing from larger SUVs but like the maneuverability and high seating position of the smaller ones, Toprak said. For instance, sales of the Honda CR-V, the No. 1 seller in the segment, rose 7.4 percent to more than 28,000, making it one of the most popular vehicles in the nation.

Ford's sales report was eclipsed by the news that the company's CEO, Alan Mulally, would retire on July 1. □



This photo shows the 2014 Nissan Rogue small SUV. American car buyers came out of hibernation in April to spend on pickup trucks and SUVs, fueling an auto sales rebound that analysts expect to last the rest of the year. Nissan led the way with an 18.3 percent increase over a year ago, with sales of the redesigned Rogue up almost 27 percent.

(AP Photo/Nissan North America)

to Autodata Corp.

Nissan led the way with an 18.3 percent increase over a year ago, with sales of the redesigned Rogue small SUV up almost 27 percent. Chrysler posted a 14 percent gain, boosted by a big jump in sales of Jeep SUVs. Both companies reported record April sales. Toyota sales grew by 13 percent, led by a double-digit gain in truck sales.

General Motors, which has suffered through bad publicity from a string of embarrassing safety recalls, posted a 7 percent gain, led by the Buick Encore small SUV

U.S. consumers bought 15.6 million new cars and trucks in 2013.

The industry entered 2014 with expectations of selling more than 16 million cars for the first time since 2007. But sales dropped 3 percent in January and were flat in February. March started slowly, but finished with a flourish.

"Sales momentum from March rolled into April, pushing the industry to its best back-to-back monthly sales pace since fall of 2007," Toyota vice president Bill Fay said in a statement.



This photo shows Kellogg's cereal products, in Orlando, Fla.

(AP Photo/John Raoux)

Kellogg: Cereal sales to keep falling

CANDICE CHOI
AP Food Industry Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Kellogg's cereal sales are falling, and the company expects the trend to persist even as it launches a major ad campaign touting the nutritional benefits of cereal.

The maker of Frosted Flakes, Special K and Mini-Wheats said Thursday that sales for its U.S. breakfast division fell 5.5 percent in the first quarter, as gains in Pop-Tarts were dragged down by continuing declines in cereal.

Cereal sales in the U.S. have been sluggish as Americans increasingly reach for alternatives such as Greek yogurt or breakfast sandwiches from fast-food chains. Even within the cereal aisle, Kellogg is facing more competition from smaller players that position themselves as healthier alternatives.

In a phone interview, Kellogg CEO John Bryant said the company had a variety of strategies to improve cereal sales in the months ahead. The primary tactic will be a marketing campaign that reminds people of how much protein is in a bowl of milk and cereal.

"What we've seen over the last few years is a protein-

seeking behavior" from shoppers, Bryant said.

In a nod to the growing concerns people have about artificial ingredients, Bryant also said Kellogg will remind people of the "simplicity of the food, that this is food directly from the farm to the table." He explained that a cornflake is corn that has been rolled and toasted.

Kellogg also plans to push the idea of cereal as a snack, whether it's a late-night treat or a topping for yogurt. And to go after people looking for convenience, it even rolled out a beverage that's positioned as a drinkable cereal last year. Rival General Mills, which makes Cheerios, has rolled out a similar drink.

In addition to the general movement away from cereal, some of Kellogg's troubles have to do with its brands in particular. Its Kashi line, for instance, has fallen out of favor with the health set because it failed to keep pace with trends, such as offering options without genetically modified ingredients.

Bryant noted that Kellogg has new products planned for the line that should address some of those shortcomings. □



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Sinn Fein braces for potential fallout after leader's arrest

DOUGLAS DALBY

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DUBLIN - When Gerry Adams became president of Sinn Fein more than three decades ago, the party was regarded as nothing more than an irrelevant apologist for Irish Republican Army atrocities. It now shares power in Northern Ireland's parliament, and in the Republic of Ireland it is riding high in the polls ahead of local and European elections later this month.

Although it is too early to gauge the fallout, if any, from his arrest and detention Wednesday in connection with the 1972 abduction of Jean McConville - a widowed mother of 10 whose killing is considered among the most emotive and heinous atrocities of the Northern Ireland conflict - the ghosts of the past continue to haunt him. Unsurprisingly, his political opponents have wasted little time in attacking his credibility in the wake of his arrest.

"Ominously for Gerry Adams, the accusations against him are coming directly from former colleagues of his in the republican movement; republicans who would have known precisely what was going on in subversive circles in Northern Ireland, particularly in Belfast, during the 1970s and 1980s," Jim Nicholson, an Ulster Unionist Party member of the European Parliament, said in a statement following Adams' arrest.

"Very few of his associates in republicanism at that time believe the Gerry Adams spin that he was never in the IRA," Nicholson said. "Indeed, some are readily breaking ranks to reveal who were involved and

what went on."

Such vitriol will cut little ice in still-polarized Northern Ireland, where Sinn Fein will likely remain the dominant nationalist party. But the real battle for hearts and minds will be in the Republic of Ireland, where Sinn Fein's brand of left-leaning populism appeared to be poised to make strong gains in the May 23 elections before Adams' arrest. There is even speculation that the party could emerge to hold the balance of power after the next scheduled general election in 2016, which will be deeply symbolic as it falls on the centennial of the Easter Rising, which eventually ended British rule in 26 of the 32 counties of Ireland. Sinn Fein's policy is to unite Ireland as a single sovereign state, effectively ending British rule in Northern Ireland. This is opposed by unionists in Northern Ireland. The timing of Adams' arrest has forced Sinn Fein into full damage-control mode. "I believe the timing of this latest decision by the Police Service of Northern Ireland (P.S.N.I.) is politically motivated and designed to damage Gerry Adams and Sinn Fein," the party's vice president, Mary Lou McDonald, said in a statement, denying in subsequent news media interviews that there was any threat to Adams' leadership.

Adams is one of the most recognizable faces of the Northern Ireland conflict internationally, but in recent years Sinn Fein has been eager to cultivate a new image, attracting many bright, engaging, photogenic individuals without the baggage of the 30-year conflict in Northern Ireland, known as "the Troubles." □

Putin wants troops out of Ukraine's east

PETER LEONARD

Associated Press

DONETSK, Ukraine (AP) — Russian President Vladimir Putin said Thursday that Ukraine should withdraw its military from the eastern and southern regions of the country, a statement that

cellor Angela Merkel, Putin said the removal of military units was the "main thing," but it was unclear if that could be construed as an outright demand. Oleksandr Turchynov's conscription order marked a turnaround for the coun-

country.

In the regional capital city of Donetsk, anti-government demonstrators took over the regional prosecutor's office Thursday. Several dozen riot police standing guard at the office fired stun grenades



Pro-Russian activists clash with police in front of the regional administration building in Donetsk, Ukraine, Thursday, May 1, 2014. Anti-government demonstrators in Donetsk have stormed the local prosecutor's office. The clash came after a march by several hundred people carrying flags of the Donetsk People's Republic, a movement that seeks either greater autonomy from the central government, or independence and possible annexation by Russia.

(AP Photo/Evgeniy Maloletka)

could bolster anti-government insurgents who are seizing buildings.

Hours later, Ukraine's acting president ordered that the military draft be renewed, citing "threats of encroachment on the nation's territorial integrity" and interference by Russia in its internal affairs.

Moscow has consistently denounced Ukrainian security forces' largely ineffectual operation against the eastern insurgents and warned they should not commit violence against civilians.

In a telephone conversation with German Chan-

try, which last year announced plans to end military conscription in favor of an all-volunteer force. His order did not specify where conscript-bolstered forces could be deployed. The renewal of military conscription affects only men 18 to 25 years old.

Earlier in the week, the acting president said police and security forces had been effectively "helpless" against insurgents in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, the heart of the unrest, and that efforts should be focused on preventing the instability from spreading to other parts of the

and tear gas when some at the front of the crowd of several hundred people attempted to force their way into the building.

As the confrontation escalated, some in the crowd threw rocks and managed to wrest away shields from police. An Associated Press reporter saw a handful of officers being dragged away and beaten by members of the crowd.

Hundreds of onlookers accompanying the protesters shouted slogans and hurled abuse.

A car outside the building blared out patriotic World War II music. □

China: Urumqi blasts are suicide attack

GILLIAN WONG
Associated Press

URUMQI, China (AP) — Chinese authorities said Thursday that two religious extremists carried out a terror

in Urumqi was the third high-profile attack in seven months blamed on Xinjiang extremists that targeted civilians. These attacks, two of them outside the region,

cine Hospital said she had just arrived from Sichuan province and was walking outside the station to meet her son when the explosives went off and knocked



Heavily armed Chinese paramilitary policemen march past the site of the Wednesday's explosion outside the Urumqi South Railway Station in Urumqi in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region Thursday, May 1, 2014.

(AP Photo/Ng Han Guan)

attack at a train station in far-western Xinjiang region by detonating explosives, in an apparent suicide bombing that also killed one other person and wounded 79. The strike late Wednesday

have marked a departure from a previous pattern of primarily targeting local authorities in a long-simmering insurgency. A 57-year-old woman being treated at the Xinjiang Traditional Chinese Medi-

her to the ground. "I saw I had shreds of flesh and blood in my hair and on my clothes. It was terrifying," said the woman, who would only give her surname, Peng. The official website for Xinjiang's regional government said police identified two suspects with a history of religious extremism, including a 39-year-old man from southern Xinjiang.

It did not explicitly call Wednesday's attack in the regional capital of Urumqi a suicide bombing, but said the two men detonated explosives at a train station exit and both died on the spot. Chinese President Xi Jinping demanded "decisive" action against terrorism after the attack, which came at awkward time for him, just as he was wrapping up a four-day tour of Xinjiang aimed at underlining the government's commitment to security in the region. It was unclear if he was still in Xinjiang when the explosions took place. "The battle to combat violence and terrorism will not allow even a moment of slackness," Xi said in comments published on the front page of official newspapers Thursday and carried by state television. □

Afghanistan: Car bomb kills 12 in Panjshir Valley

AZAM AHMED
HARIS KAKAR

© 2014 New York Times

KABUL, Afghanistan - A suicide car bombing killed at least 12 people, including at least five security force members, in Panjshir province on Thursday, in an attack that struck at the symbolic heart of resistance to the Taliban's rule and the Soviet occupation. The attack occurred around 5 p.m. in the Dalan Sang area of the Panjshir Valley, the entryway to the mountainous seat of the old Northern Alliance, who spent years battling the Taliban and were instrumental in the overthrow of their government when coalition forces entered Afghanistan in 2001.

The valley offers a natural barrier to entry, lined by steep and narrow gorges that have frustrated outsiders for decades and proved impenetrable even to the Soviet military after the 1979 invasion. It has suffered just a handful of bombings over the past decade, despite its value as a highly symbolic target for Taliban insurgents and other militants. Since the mujahedeen resistance to the Soviets and the later fight against the Taliban, Panjshiris, as the ethnic Tajik population of the valley are called, have been major players in the Afghan government. A roster of influential Panjshiris leaders in the Kabul power structure, including the minister of defense, has helped ensure the valley's security. And the current front-runner in the Afghan presidential race, Abdullah Abdullah, was a close adviser to Ahmed Shah Massoud, the famed commander of the Panjshiri resistance for decades. In the attack Thursday, the suicide bomber drove his vehicle up to the gate and detonated his charge before security officers could stop him. □

Nigeria: Abductions fuel 2nd day of protests

ADAM NOSSITER
© 2014 New York Times

DAKAR, Senegal - Hundreds of protesters marched in the streets of the Nigerian capital Wednesday, demanding that the government do more to find scores of schoolgirls abducted by armed militants more than two weeks ago. Parents of the girls have turned up sick in hospitals, overcome with worry. Some have even gone into the bush to search for the girls themselves, armed only with bows and arrows in the heartland of an Islamist insurgency. "We were more than two, three days in the bush, looking for our daughters," said the father of Ayesha, an 18-year-old who is still missing. "But we were told, 'If you enter this area they will bomb you, they will kill you.'" The girls - roughly 275, although the authorities and parents differ on the number - were kidnapped April 15 in the country's far

northeast, where the Islamist group Boko Haram has been active for three years. The girls were taken from a state school in the town of Chibok by armed and uniformed men and were loaded into trucks and driven into a dense forest at night. No one has claimed responsibility, and military efforts to find the girls have been unsuccessful. The Nigerian army initially announced that it had rescued the captives but issued a retraction. About 40 girls managed to escape on their own, a local official said Wednesday in a telephone interview. "They are still looking for the students," Hajiya Asabe Ali Kwambula, the principal of the school, said in a phone interview from the state capital, Maiduguri. "The security men are doing their efforts." Kwambula said that 53 girls had escaped and that 223 were still missing. □



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Arrest made in slaying of Venezuela ex-spy chief Otaiza

JORGE RUEDA
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Police have arrested a suspect in the mysterious murder of a former Ven-

his vehicle was intercepted by a group of armed men. He had been shot four times. No motive has been established for the crime, but President Nico-

Maduro urged his supporters to stay on maximum alert, alleging that some of the opposition activists who have been staging anti-government protests

vowed to avenge Otaiza's slaying. "Let's not forget the context of the last few months." Interior Minister Manuel Rodriguez Torres gave few details about the investigation into Otaiza's killing, saying only that the arrested suspect had led police to identify the other alleged gunmen. The suspect's name wasn't released. Otaiza was one of the most loyal supporters of Chavez's socialist revolu-

tion. As a young army officer, he backed Chavez's failed 1992 coup attempt and was responsible for his personal security guard when he was elected president in 1998.

Otaiza later served as national director of the country's intelligence service. In December, he was elected a city councilman in the downtown Caracas district that has long been a government stronghold. □



Army mates of former Venezuelan Intelligence Chief Eliezer Otaiza carry his body outside the National Assembly during a funeral procession in Caracas, Venezuela, Wednesday, April 30, 2014. As a young army officer, Otaiza backed Hugo Chavez's failed 1992 coup attempt and was responsible for his personal security when he was elected president in 1998. The man at left is Carlos Alcala Cordones, former army commander and current Mayor of La Guaira.

(AP Photo/Fernando Llano)

ezuelan intelligence chief with close ties to the late President Hugo Chavez. Eliezer Otaiza's body was found dumped in a forested area on the edge of Caracas on Saturday after

las Maduro speculated late this week that enemies of his socialist government might have been behind Otaiza's murder. In a ceremony honoring Otaiza at the National Assembly,

since February are committed to using violence to destabilize the country. "There's no such thing as casual coincidences," he told lawmakers and party leaders, many of whom

St Lucia: Police working to identify charred body

CASTRIES, St. Lucia (AP)

— Investigators are trying to identify a body found burned beyond recognition last week in a charred Range Rover near a luxury hotel on the north shore of this Caribbean island, police said this week.

Officials released scant details at a news conference, but speculation was rife that the dead man was wealthy hotelier Oliver Gobat, a St. Lucia native who also has British citizenship. He was reported missing Friday, the same day the body was found near his family's upscale Cap Maison hotel and spa.

Tourism Minister Lorne Theophilus said only that the body was believed to be a "prominent St. Lucian

resident associated with the tourism sector."

On Wednesday, Gobat's family issued a statement saying they were devastated by his "sudden and tragic death."

"They said he died Friday and they planned to hold a memorial service Saturday. They did not offer any specifics on how Gobat died. Gobat is the son of Theo Gobat, who came to St. Lucia in the 1970s and ran several hotels.

About six years ago, the family opened Cap Maison, a 49-room hotel spread out in villas that the younger Gobat managed. While British newspapers are identifying the corpse in the car as Gobat, Assistant Police Commissioner Frances Henry said

officials were still trying to determine the identity and were working on getting forensic assistance from overseas. A police statement Tuesday said the body's identity could not be conclusively determined "in the absence of scientific evidence."

An initial autopsy found evidence of head trauma and possible gunshot wounds, according to police. But they said the body was so badly burned it would require further work to determine the cause of death. St. Lucia, an island of about 163,000 people, has seen an increase in violent crimes that authorities blame on drug trafficking. However, police reported 34 killings last year, the lowest number in four years. □

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FRI-SAT 4:00 | 7:05 | 10:10
SUN & HOL 4:00 | 7:05 | 10:10
MON-WED 4:00 | 7:05

3D VERSION
THURS 3:00 | 6:00 | 9:00
FRI 6:00 | 9:00
SAT, SUN & HOL 3:00 | 6:00 | 9:00
MON-WED 6:00 | 9:00

3D VERSION
THURS 2:00 | 5:00 | 8:05
FRI 5:00 | 8:05 | 11:10
SAT 2:00 | 5:00 | 8:05 | 11:10
SUN & HOL 2:00 | 5:00 | 8:05
MON-WED 5:00 | 8:05

ON THREE SCREENS

TRANSCENDENCE

JOHNNY DEPP | REBECCA HALL

WITH DUTCH SUBTITLES
THURS 2:00 | 4:30 | 7:00 | 9:30
FRI 4:30 | 7:00 | 9:30 | 12:00
SAT 2:00 | 4:30 | 7:00 | 9:30 | 12:00
SUN & HOL 2:00 | 4:30 | 7:00 | 9:30
MON-WED 4:30 | 7:00 | 9:30

DRAFT DAY

KEVIN COSTNER | JENNIFER GARNER

THURS 2:10 | 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:25
FRI 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:25 | 11:50
SAT 2:10 | 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:25 | 11:50
SUN & HOL 2:10 | 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:25
MON-WED 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:25

BRICK MANSIONS

PAUL WALKER | DAVID BELLE | RZA

THURS 3:05 | 5:15 | 7:25 | 9:35
FRI 5:15 | 7:25 | 9:35 | 11:45
SAT 3:05 | 5:15 | 7:25 | 9:35 | 11:45
SUN & HOL 3:05 | 5:15 | 7:25 | 9:35
MON-WED 5:15 | 7:25 | 9:35

the Other Woman

CAMERON DIAZ | LESLIE MANN

THURS 2:00 | 4:25 | 6:50 | 9:15
FRI 4:25 | 6:50 | 9:15 | 11:50
SAT 2:00 | 4:25 | 6:50 | 9:15 | 11:50
SUN & HOL 2:00 | 4:25 | 6:50 | 9:15
MON-WED 4:25 | 6:50 | 9:15

A HAUNTED HOUSE 2

MARLON WAYANS | JAIME PRESSLY

FRI 10:50
SAT 10:50

Rio 2

JESSE EISENBERG | ANNE HATHAWAY

3D VERSION
THURS 1:50 | 4:05 | 6:20 | 8:35
FRI 4:05 | 6:20 | 8:35
SAT 1:50 | 4:05 | 6:20 | 8:35
SUN & HOL 1:50 | 4:05 | 6:20 | 8:35
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Young EU members celebrate decade in rich club

MONIKA SCISLOWSKA

Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — It has been a time of monumental change for several former Soviet satellite states that joined the European Union 10 years ago: open markets and the free movement of people has spurred economic growth that at times dwarfed worldwide trends. The goods they produced reached millions of new consumers. But it also left some feeling they threw away the yoke of an overbearing Moscow for an unaccountable Brussels. On May 1, 2004, in its biggest single expansion, the EU took in 10 countries with some 74 million people. Seven entrants were either one-time Soviet republics or once part of the Warsaw Pact: the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Slovakia. The others were Malta, Cyprus and Slovenia.

In countries like Poland, a decade in one of the world's most exclusive clubs has brought galloping growth, even at time when many other parts of the union were beset by a crippling financial crisis.

"Poland and other countries in the region seized this chance offered to them by history and used it well," Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk said earlier this week as he presented a report on his country's de-

cade in the EU.

EU accession, the report said, helped Poland increase exports to EU partners, brought funds to help modernize roads, bridges, railways and waste-water treatment, and gave greater access for Poles to schools and jobs in more-developed countries to the West. Poland's gross domestic product has grown

Membership in the bloc and a move westward has also offered an enhanced sense of security for some of the countries in recent weeks, as newly assertive Russia has flexed its muscles in Ukraine, another former Soviet republic.

"For me, it is good that we are in the union," said Leonard Kukiel, an elevator engineer who works in

faster and more comfortable. And visa-free travel is a very nice thing, too."

As for the neighboring Czech Republic, David Marek, chief economist at Patria Finance investment bank in Prague, said EU membership had "an essential effect" on economic development, with exports rising some 130 percent since 2004 and huge

criticized bloc rules that have given small countries like his little power compared to larger members like Germany, France and Poland, which is about as big as all the other entrants combined. Hungary has been among the biggest beneficiaries of EU development funds, netting over 24 billion euros in the 2007-2013 budget cycle. That's enough to cover 97 percent of its state development projects. But Zsolt Veres, a 41-year-old science teacher, is among those Hungarians who believe that EU funds have gone to the wrong things.

"I see parks and football stadiums being unveiled daily instead of more investments in education and the health sector," Veres said. "I think priorities are getting mixed up and the important things are being relegated in favor of flashy projects."

Hungary's economic growth since 2004 was just 9 percent, and polls suggest Hungarians are among the least-satisfied members of the EU.

Brussels has also been a restraining influence on Prime Minister Viktor Orban, whose government has been accused of weakening democratic checks and balances. Many Hungarians back him: His right-wing, populist party won a new two-thirds majority in parliament in elections last month. □



Cars drive through a soundproof tunnel covering a highway in Warsaw, Poland, Wednesday, April 30, 2014, one of the many investments built with the help of European Union funds. Poland joined the European Union a decade ago, a time that made monumental changes in the country as well as in some other former Soviet satellite states in east and central Europe.

(AP Photo/Alik Keplicz)

49 percent since 2004, while the overall EU economy grew 11 percent over the same period, the report said. Polish exports to EU partners tripled, reaching 115 billion euros (about \$160 billion) last year.

Warsaw for U.S.-based Otis Elevator Co. — a job he said likely wouldn't have been possible without the EU. "The country also profited, I can see that when I travel: Many good roads and highways make travel

foreign-investment inflows — 250 billion koruna (\$12.5 billion) in 2005 alone. Former Czech President Vaclav Klaus, however, has compared the 28-member European bloc to a Soviet-style dictatorship. He has

5-year-old Puerto Rico fire extinguished

DANICA COTO

Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — A fire that burned for more than five years at a tire disposal site in southern Puerto Rico has finally been extinguished, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced Thursday. EPA officials said Puerto Rico's government called them several weeks ago seeking help to extinguish the fire at the Integrated Waste Management site in the southern coastal city of Penuelas. The pile of tires was 60 feet (18 meters) high, 150 feet

(46 meters) long and 60 feet (18 meters) wide. It first caught fire in August 2008 and kept smoldering even though local officials had partially controlled the burn with dirt, the EPA said. "Certain types of industrial fires can smolder for a long time," EPA spokesman Elias Rodriguez said in a phone interview. "It was something that was persistent." The EPA said it began work on March 18 and extinguished the fire on April 24. Officials said they took more than 12,000 tires to a recycling center and covered 8,000 cubic yards

(6,100 cubic meters) of non-hazardous material with clean soil.

EPA officials said their part of the cleanup cost some \$400,000, and that they are looking for the facility's owners to hold them responsible for the expense. Laura Velez, president of the Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board, said the agency has issued several orders against the company in recent years but has received no response. She said in a phone interview that the government is still calculating its cleanup costs. □



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Deborah St. Laurent bids Calloway Corporation Farewell



ORANJESTAD - Calloway Corporation, providing quality airline catering service at Reina Beatrix Airport in Aruba was successfully managed by Deborah St Laurent for the past 33 years.

The company was recently taken over by the Goddard Catering Group and the decision to retire from that business prompted both the Cohen Group, the original owners, and the Goddard Catering Good, the new owners, to give the dynamic outgoing director, better known as Debi, an elegant cocktail party at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa, in the beach Pavilion.

Among well-wishers attending the party, Aruba's Prime Minister and the first lady, Mike & Doina Eman,



the Minister of Justice, Arthur Dowers, and his wife and the Minister of Social Affairs, Youth and Labor, Paul Croes and his wife, in addition to many past and present Calloway Catering employees, airline and airport personnel, Debi's friends from the local com-

munity and members of management of the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa, as well as representatives of the Cohen group.

"There was no internet 33 year ago, when Ike and Greta Cohen offered me a job in Aruba," Debi recalls. She fondly adds that she had to go to her hometown library to find out where Aruba was but nevertheless she said yes right away, and never looked back.

"For that opportunity, which I was given," says states, "I will eternally be grateful."

In her short address to her guests Debi attributed all of the company's successes to her past and present staffers, the dedicated employees who made running Calloway Catering much easier, than saying goodbye to it.

The company, she informed, will from now on be managed by the very-capable Vincent Bell, who was the executive assistant for many years.

As a token of appreciation, Debi received an engraved plaque with a charming personal note thanking her for her creativity, hard work and loyalty, and wishing her fun on her new adventures.

Francisco Mallorca, representing the Goddard



Catering Group thanked Debi for the three months of transition in which he got to learn what an amazing professional she was.

The party was beautifully catered by the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa Culinary team, serving some of Debi's favorite hours d'oeuvres, especially the

extra colossal U10 shrimp, which used to appear on the first class airline catering menu, in yesteryears.

Pictured here, unforgettable party moments, as Debi is showered with love and appreciation, gifts and hugs, leaving Calloway Corporation after 33 tremendous years. □

At Amazonia Churrascaria: Audrey Smit enjoys a fabulous birthday celebration!



PALM BEACH - An intimate crowd of family members and friends celebrated Audrey Smit's birthday over delicious sushi and grilled meats, accompanied by hand-crafted cocktails and wine.

Audrey and her husband Tim recently took over two famous Palm Beach landmark restaurants, Amazonia Churrascaria and Sushi Salsa, and are planning considerable upgrades and changes to prepare the eateries for a busy summer at the end of a suc-



Beauty On The Beach

Marianela Parra

And family are vacationing at Casa del Mar. This is her 20th consecutive year on the Island making her virtually a local.



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cessful winter season. Tim who packs years of food & beverage experience in Europe opening a great number of successful eateries and staging mega-concerts reports his wife's birthday is just one of the many events in store for Amazonia and Sushi Salsa in the near future. The biggest change he says will be in orientation, as the restaurant's main entrance will now be facing the Palm Beach tree-lined boulevard, and the right hand side of the garden adjacent to Aqua Grill Restaurant will be transformed into an outdoor

dining and lounge area. Sushi Salsa is also expected to move within the restaurant and expand. In response to popular demand the Sushi bar will almost double in size and by vacating its current spot, will allow the bar to evolve into an after-dinner, longer, comfortable sitting area, offering an array of bar-bites. Pictured here friends and well-wishers arriving at Amazonia Churrascaria and Sushi Salsa to wish Audrey a happy birthday and to bid the entrepreneurial couple good luck in their new venture. □

Curaçao performer Levi Silvanie confirmed for Art Rules Aruba!

ORANJESTAD - This summer Curacao's own Levi Silvanie will become part of the international Educational Arts Program Art Rules Aruba set to kick off on July 5th. Presented by RBC Royal Bank, Art Rules Aruba has become known as the biggest summer program offering kids the opportunity to take part in 2 weeks intensive workshops with the best international artists from around the world. As they celebrate 5 years, organizers are going bigger with the teacher's pool, adding Curacao phenomenon Levi Silvanie as one of the Music & Performance teachers. Celebrating 5 years on Aruba, Art Rules will also make its debut on Curaçao, kicking off Art Rules Curaçao right after Aruba on July 21st at Luna Blou and La Tentashon. Joined by other professionals in the business Silvanie has been chosen to be-



come a teacher for both Art Rules Aruba and Art Rules Curaçao. Excited to be on the team for both Islands, Silvanie states "It's an honor to work with Art Rules and collaborate on a project to inspire young

people". Having dedicated a lot of his work to the youth, Silvanie is currently also working on building the GsmeMiss movement; his vision to spread consciousness and knowledge of freedom of expression

and motivate young people to just being "yourself"! Founders of Art Rules are super excited to have Silvanie on board as fans and supporters they believe that "Levi is one of those artists a lot of young people can relate to, he gets them and they get him". It seems that Silvanie is perfect for such a program.

Joined by no one other than Hip Hop legend Shyrock (Postman) turned international Dancehall/Reggae artist and produc-

er Maikal X and Dutch/Aruban Emcee Pete Philly, Let it not be a surprise if Music & Performance becomes one of the biggest attended workshops in Art Rules Aruba this year.

Are you an aspiring artist who wants to better your skills? What better way to learn a few things from the most experienced artists around? If you love Music or know anyone else who loves music or any other discipline Art Rules offers, sign up now! Go to www.artrulesaruba.com/apply fill in the application form, write your motivation letter and become one of the students to call themselves Art Rulers.

For more information on ALL the teachers, disciplines, updates and more, visit www.artrulesaruba.com or Art Rules on their social platforms via www.facebook.com/artrulesaruba @twitter/artrulesU Instagram@Artrulesflicks.□





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CASINO AND SHOPS

The Trop Casino & Club helps you plan ahead for Mother's Day!

EAGLE BEACH - The Trop Club & Casino helps you treat yourself or your loved one to a fabulous tennis bracelet, in preparation for Mother's Day.

This glittering gift promotion is open to all Trop Advantage carded slot players, and it is easy to follow and participate.

Slot players will receive a gift for each 250 points earned playing slots starting at 12 noon on May 1st through May 10th. The points must be earned on a specific day and redeem that same day, which means you are invited to play your favorite game with your Trop Advantage card inserted into the machine, ready to earn you points towards a valuable gift. Having reach 250, simply go the Advantage Booth, Monday through Sunday from 7pm -12 midnight and pick up your gift, but hurry up, supplies might be running out. Then on Mother's Day, you would be ready, prepared to treat yourself or a loved one to a fabulous gift.

Wilfred Trimon, the Casino



Director reminds patrons to sign up for the Advantage Club in order to participate, and gifts do run out, he says, so no rain checks nor substitutions, and points earned do not carry over, they must be redeemed that same day, if you are at least 18 years of age, he adds.

On May 11th, Mother's Day, at the top of each hour, the casino will randomly select a lucky Trop Advantage Card Member for a fabulous resort package which includes a two

night hotel stay, dinner for two, spa/salon gift card and a bouquet of flowers. Additionally at half hours \$100 will be given away in Free Slot Play, awarded to five lucky ladies.

To qualify for sweet giveaways On Mother's Day, patrons must earn 25 points with their Trop Advantage Card on Mother's Day before the drawings begin.

The Trop Club and Casino, has been staging spectacular promotions and over the year entertained slot and table players with



many different holiday events such as Valentine's Day and Easter Sunday, just

to name a few, with Mother's Day just joining the list of stellar promotions. □

Quick Hit Platinum Awards Michelle a sweet Jackpot!



PALM BEACH - Michelle Hohler, a guest of the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa, from Rochester, New York, hit the 2nd progressive on the Quick Hit Platinum slot machine earning her US\$4,500, which was the machine's way of saying thank you for the \$20 bill Michelle fed it earlier. I got all the way to US\$55, she says, I was so excited, then I continued to play against my husband's advice to cash out, and won the US\$4,500 progressive payout. It pays to be a rebel, she added. Casino employee Douglas Rollock received a big hug from Michelle in gratitude for delivering the cash. Chantal Cha Young, Casino Sales & Marketing Coordinator, reports that the

Casino at the Radisson had just started offering Lady Luck BINGO on Wednesdays at 7pm and 8:30pm, with bingo cards available at the casino cage, for just US\$1. The full card of bingo within the first 50 calls pays US\$1,000, and from call 51 and up, the full card pays US\$100.

Additionally, Match & Wine Thursdays at 7pm, 8pm and 9pm, allows patrons to earn entry tickets all week for Match & Win prizes on Thursday. Every 10 points accumulated on the Players' Membership Club Card, qualifies for an entry ticket to Match & Win, and each participant gets to match and win exciting prizes, with a big event with greater prizes every last Thursday of the month. □

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Angel Cabrera, of Argentina, reacts as he misses a putt on the 15th hole during the first round of the Wells Fargo Championship golf tournament in Charlotte, N.C., Thursday, May 1, 2014.

Associated Press

Mickelson trails Cabrera by a shot at Quail Hollow

DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (AP) — Phil Mickelson kept it entertaining to the very end Thursday and finished one shot behind Angel Cabrera in the Wells Fargo Championship. Cabrera played in early, calmer conditions and thrived on the new Bermuda greens at Quail Hollow. He made seven birdies, including a 40-footer from just off the green, and turned in a 6-under 66 that stood as the lead the rest of the day. Mickelson caught him twice and couldn't hold it. Coming off his first missed cut at the Masters in 17 years, Mickelson handled the strong, swirling wind in the afternoon for a 5-under 67, tied with Martin Flores. Mickelson hit only one fairway on the back nine. He bogeyed both the par 3s. He chipped poorly and atoned for that with long par putts.

Continued on Page 17



In this Feb. 21, 2014, file photo, Los Angeles Lakers head coach Mike D'Antoni yells at referees during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Boston Celtics in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

Lakers coach Mike D'Antoni resigns

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Los Angeles Lakers coach Mike D'Antoni resigned Wednesday after less than two seasons on the job. Team spokesman John Black confirmed D'Antoni's resignation, ending the brief tenure of the Lakers' fourth

head coach in less than three years. D'Antoni won 67 of 154 games after taking over the Lakers early in the 2012-13 season, replacing the fired Mike Brown, who lasted just 71 games after replacing 11-time NBA champion coach Phil

Jackson in 2011. The injury-plagued Lakers were 27-55 this season, their worst campaign in more than 50 years and the second-worst winning percentage in club history. With Kobe Bryant, Steve Nash and Pau Gasol sitting out large

chunks of the season while the Lakers lost an NBA-worst 319 man-games to injuries, the 16-time NBA champion franchise missed the playoffs for the first time in nine seasons and only the third time in 38 years.

Continued on Page 20

AL Capsules

Angels beat Indians 7-1, extending skid to 6

The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, California (AP)

— C.J. Wilson pitched two-hit ball over eight innings, Hank Conger hit a go-ahead, two-run homer off Zach McAllister, and the Los Angeles Angels beat Cleveland 7-1 Wednesday to send the Indians to their sixth straight loss.

Wilson (4-2) struck out eight, walked one and retired his last 18 batters after a lead-off double in the third by No. 9 hitter Elliot Johnson.

McAllister (3-2) threw 101 pitches over 4 1-3 innings and was charged with five runs, four hits and four walks.

ATHLETICS 12, RANGERS 1 ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)

— Jesse Chavez allowed one hit in seven scoreless innings, Eric Sogard matched his season total with three RBIs and the Athletics completed a three-game sweep with a rout of the sloppy Rangers.

Yoenis Cespedes had two doubles, scored twice and drove in two runs for the A's, who scored 10 runs combined in the third and fourth innings to answer a three-game sweep by the Rangers in Oakland last week.

The Rangers matched a season high with four errors, including one of two by shortstop Elvis Andrus on what could have been an inning-ending double play in Oakland's seven-run third.

Chavez (2-0) walked one and struck out eight, allowing only Prince Fielder's soft line-drive single to right-center field in the first inning.

Robbie Ross (1-2) gave up 11 hits and 10 runs in 3 1-3 innings.

ROYALS 4, BLUE JAYS 2

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Alcides Escobar delivered a two-run double in the seventh inning, and the Kansas City Royals held on for a tense victory over the Toronto Blue Jays.

Eric Hosmer drove in the other two runs for the Royals, whose bullpen blew a 2-0 lead for young starter Yordano Ventura before holding on to beat Toronto with a late rally for the second straight night.

Kelvin Herrera (1-1) stranded runners on second and third in the seventh.

Drew Hutchison (1-2) allowed all four runs on five hits in seven innings for Toronto.

INTERLEAGUE

DODGERS 6, TWINS 4

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Zack Greinke pitched six strong innings, Juan Uribe had two RBIs and the Dodgers earned their 10,000th win in franchise history, beating the Twins.

Greinke (5-0) struck out six and didn't allow an earned run through drizzling rain and temperatures that dipped into the 30s.

With the bases loaded and the Twins trailing 5-1 in the



Los Angeles Angels starting pitcher C.J. Wilson throws to the plate during the first inning of a baseball game against the Cleveland Indians, Wednesday, April 30, 2014, in Anaheim, Calif.

Associated Press

seventh, reliever Chris Withrow got Trevor Plouffe to pop out to shortstop on a 3-0 pitch to end the threat. The Dodgers join the Giants, Cubs and Braves as the only franchises to win 10,000 games.

Adrian Gonzalez, Andre Ethier and Yasiel Puig each added two hits and an RBI. Kyle Gibson (3-2) allowed five runs in 6 2-3 innings.

WASHINGTON 7, HOUSTON 0

HOUSTON (AP) — Anthony

Rendon finished a triple shy of the cycle and had four hits, Jordan Zimmermann pitched smoothly into the seventh inning and the Nationals beat the Astros.

Rendon connected for a two-run double in a four-run fourth and added a solo home run in the sixth. The Houston native added a double in the first and a single in the third but flew out to left in the eighth.

Zimmermann (2-1) scattered seven hits in 6 1-3 innings. He struck out seven to earn his 45th win with the Nationals, making him club's youngest pitcher since the Montreal Expos moved to Washington in 2005.

Denard Span and Kevin Frandsen each had two hits and Danny Espinosa also had two hits, including a solo home run in the fifth that chased Brett Oberholtzer (0-5).

In other AL games it was Detroit 5, Chicago White Sox 1; L.A. Angels 7, Cleveland 1; Oakland 12, Texas 1; L.A. Dodgers 6, Minnesota 4; Kansas City 4, Toronto 2; and Washington 7, Houston 0. □

MLB gains tool to check Dominican baseball players

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP) — Major League Baseball is getting a new tool to verify the ages and identities of players from the Dominican Republic.

More than 10 percent of the players in the majors are Dominican. There have been a few known cases in which players signed contracts after using fake documents that gave wrong names and ages. The president of the Dominican Central Electoral Commission says MLB officials will now be able to access its national database of names and biometric data.

Roberto Rosario says that should help reduce fraud among those aspiring to play professional baseball in the U.S. Dominican authorities are also pledging to investigate and prosecute document fraud involving players as part of an agreement signed with league officials on Thursday. □

Oldest Olympian, U.S. sharpshooter, dies at 106

ARLINGTON, Virginia (AP) — Walter R. Walsh, the world's oldest living Olympian, has died. He was 106.

USA Shooting says Walsh died on Tuesday — six days before his 107th birthday — at his home in Arlington. Walsh finished 12th in the men's 50-meter free pistol at the 1948 London Olympics. He had already demonstrated his marksmanship working for the F.B.I. and the Marine Corps.

During the Depression, Walsh was instrumental in the capture and killing of several gangsters, including discovering the body of Baby Face Nelson and catching Arthur (Doc) Barker. Walsh spent more than 20 years as a shooting instructor before his retirement in 1970.

He later served as the team leader for USA Shooting in several competitions, including the 1972 Munich Olympics. □



This 1939 handout photo provided by the FBI Office of Public Affairs shows Walter Walsh.

Associated Press



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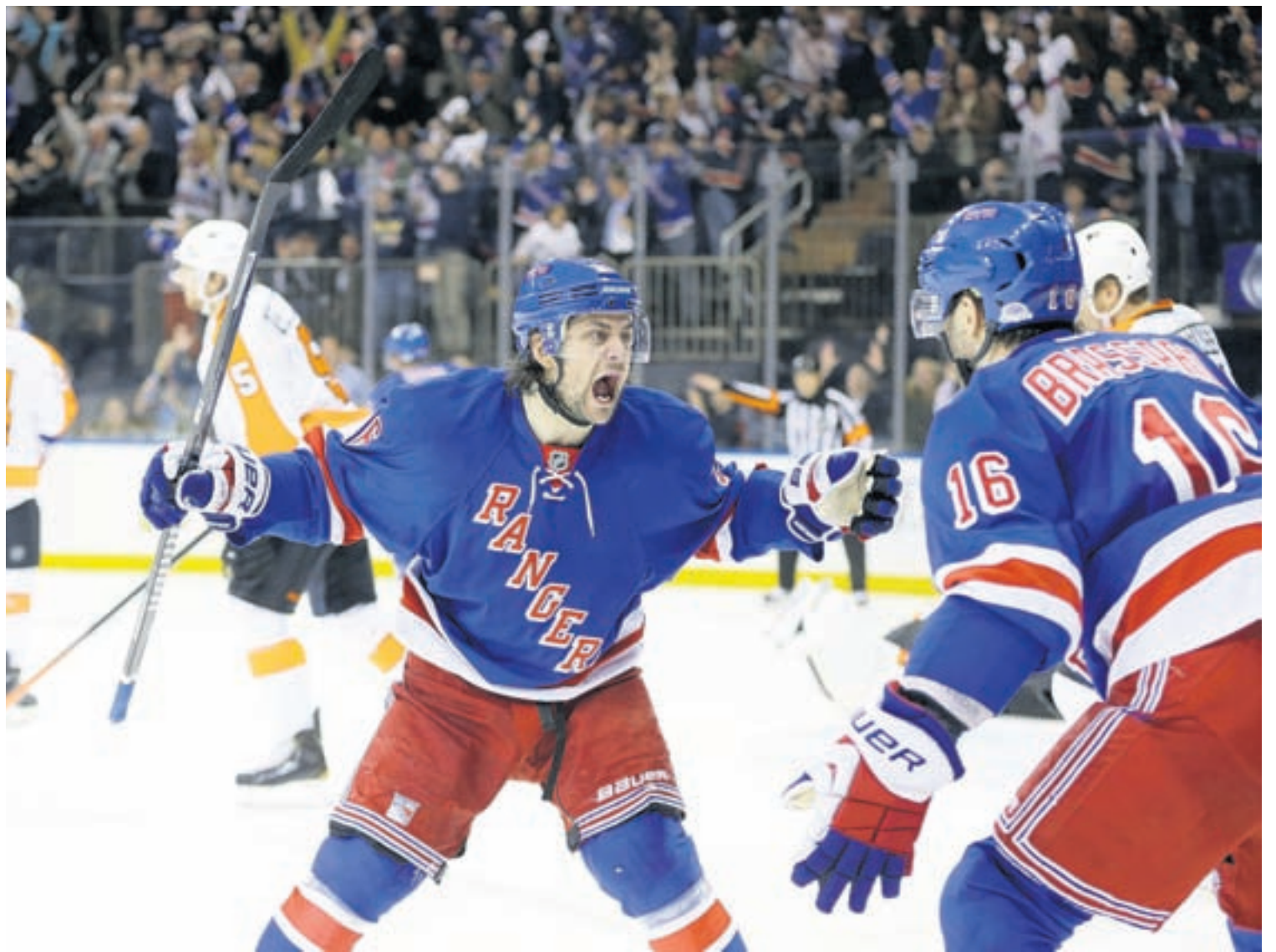
SAN JOSE, California (AP)

— Anze Kopitar scored the tiebreaking goal late in the second period and Jonathan Quick made 39 saves to cap the Los Angeles Kings' historic comeback from three games down with a 5-1 victory over the San Jose Sharks in Game 7 of their first-round series Wednesday night.

Drew Doughty, Tyler Toffoli, Dustin Brown and Tanner Pearson also scored for the Kings, who became the fourth NHL team to win a best-of-seven series after losing the first three games. The Kings joined Toronto (1942), the New York Islanders (1975) and Philadelphia (2010) as the only teams to complete that comeback and now will get another California showdown in the second-round with the first Freeway Playoff against the Anaheim Ducks.

Matt Irwin scored the lone goal and Antti Niemi made 25 saves for the Sharks, who added perhaps their most bitter playoff disappointment to a history of them. San Jose has the second most regular-season wins in the NHL the past 10 seasons but has never made it past the conference finals. **WILD 5, AVALANCHE 4**

DENVER (AP) — Nino Niederreiter scored his second goal of the game at 5:02 of overtime and Ilya Bryzgalov made a big save filling in for an injured Darcy Kuemper, leading Minnesota to the victory in Game 7. It's the first playoff series win for the Wild since 2003. Minnesota trailed 4-3 before Jared Spurgeon



New York Rangers' Mats Zuccarello (36) and Derick Brassard (16) celebrate a goal by Benoit Pouliot during the second period in Game 7 of an NHL hockey first-round playoff series against the Philadelphia Flyers, Wednesday, April 30, 2014, in New York.

Associated Press

scored on a nifty play with 2:27 left in regulation. Spurgeon waited for a clear look at the goal, and then shot it over Semyon Varlamov's shoulder and off the left post.

Mikko Koivu and Dany Heatley had the other goals for the Wild, who will face the defending Stanley Cup champion Blackhawks in the second round.

Nick Holden, Jamie Mc-

Ginn, Paul Stastny and Erik Johnson scored for the Avalanche.

Patrick Roy's first season on the bench for the Avalanche ended the same way his Hall of Fame goaltending career did — with a loss to the Wild in Game 7. Roy surrendered the winning overtime goal in 2003. **RANGERS 2, FLYERS 1**

NEW YORK (AP) — Daniel Carcillo and Benoit

Pouliot scored second-period goals as the New York Rangers advanced to the second round of the Stanley Cup playoffs with a 2-1 victory over the Philadelphia Flyers in Game 7 on Wednesday.

The Rangers shook off a 5-2 thrashing in Philadelphia on Tuesday and knocked out the Flyers about 24 hours later, improving to 6-0 in Game 7s at Madison

Square Garden. New York will face another Metropolitan Division rival, the Pittsburgh Penguins, in the next round starting on Friday.

Henrik Lundqvist made 26 saves, allowing only a third-period goal to Jason Akesson 4:32 into the final frame. He protected the one-goal lead at 7:25 when he made an awkward save against Flyers captain Claude Giroux. □

Spurs and Raptors win, as Rockets stay alive

The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Tony Parker scored 23 points hours after the birth of his first child as San Antonio never trailed in a 109-103 victory over Dallas on Wednesday, taking a 3-2 lead in the first-round series. Manu Ginobili had 19 points and Tiago Splitter added 17 points and 12 rebounds as San Antonio regained home-court advantage. Tim Duncan added 16 points and 12 rebounds and Kawhi Leonard had 15 points for the Spurs. Vince Carter scored 28 points on 10-for-16 shooting from the field for Dallas. After averaging 16 points in the series' first four games, Mavericks forward Dirk Nowitzki scored 26 points on 10-for-20 shooting.

Carter's 3-pointer with 3 minutes left pulled Dallas within 98-94 but Parker followed a minute later with his only 3-pointer of the game. Parker played on little sleep following the early morning birth of his son, Josh, with fiancée Axelle Francine. Game 6 is Friday night in Dallas.



San Antonio Spurs' Tony Parker (9), of France, is fouled by Dallas Mavericks' Jose Calderon (8), of Spain, during the second half of Game 5 of the opening-round NBA basketball playoff series on Wednesday, April 30, 2014, in San Antonio. San Antonio won 109-103.

RAPTORS 115, NETS 113

TORONTO (AP) — Kyle Lowry scored a career playoff-high 36 points, including the go-ahead 3-pointer after Toronto had blown a 26-point lead, as the Raptors took a 3-2 lead in their first-round series.

DeMar DeRozan had 23 points, Jonas Valanciunas scored 16 and Greivis Vasquez added 15 for the Raptors, who would advance to face Miami in the second round with a victory in Game 6 on Friday in Brooklyn. Joe Johnson scored 30 points and Mirza Teletovic had 17 for the Nets, who scored 44 points in the fourth quarter but lost their final chance when Andray Blatche fired a pass well over Deron Williams' head into the backcourt for a turnover.

Toronto led 94-72 on a 3-pointer by Vasquez with 11:23 remaining, but Brooklyn scored 15 of the next 18 points, including a four-point play by Alan Anderson, to make it 97-87 with 7:15 remaining. Johnson later converted a three-point play, then made a 3 to tie it at 101 with 3:16 left. Two free throws by Blatche and a 3 by Teletovic tied it at 106 with 1:23 left, but

Associated Press

Lowry made a 3, then followed a layup by Blatche with a driving hook shot, putting the Raptors up 111-108 with 27 seconds remaining.

ROCKETS 108, TRAIL BLAZERS 98

HOUSTON (AP) — Dwight Howard had 22 points and 14 rebounds, and Jeremy Lin came off the bench to score 21 points as Houston avoided elimination.

The Trail Blazers lead the first-round series 3-2 entering Game 6 on Friday in Portland. A basket by Damian Lillard got the Trail Blazers within two points before James Harden stepped back and swished a 3-pointer to make it 103-98 with about 3 minutes left. Harden's shot was the start of Houston's 12-0 run to close it out. He finished with 17 points and seven assists. Houston finally slowed down LaMarcus Aldridge, limiting him to eight points after he averaged 35.3 points in the first four games. Wesley Matthews led the Blazers with 27 points and Lillard added 26. □



In this April 13, 2014, file photo, Los Angeles Lakers head coach Mike D'Antoni gestures to his team during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Memphis Grizzlies in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

Continued from Page 17

"Given the circumstances, I don't know that anybody could have done a better job than Mike did the past two seasons," Lakers general manager Mitch Kupchak said. "On behalf of the Lakers, we thank Mike for the work ethic, professionalism and positive attitude that he brought to the team every day. We wish him the best of luck."

The 62-year-old D'Antoni had one year left on his contract, but wanted the Lakers to pick up his option year for 2015-16 to have any chance of success. The Lakers apparently refused, leading to D'Antoni's resignation. D'Antoni walked away from a \$4 million payday for next season, although he may receive a portion of that money as severance.

A phone message left for D'Antoni wasn't immediately returned. Despite the Lakers' injuries on a roster consisting mostly of players on one-year contracts, Los Angeles fans largely directed their anger during a rare down season toward D'Antoni. Lakers great Magic Johnson, who was sharply critical of D'Antoni's coaching style, hailed the news on his Twitter account. "Happy days are here again!" Johnson tweeted. "Mike D'Antoni resigns as the Lakers coach. I couldn't be happier!"

D'Antoni also coached the Suns and the Knicks, reaching two Western Conference finals with Nash in Phoenix before having much less success in New York. D'Antoni's signature up-tempo style of play seemed an odd match from the start with the aging, ball-dominating Bryant and the Lakers, who ran Jackson's deliberate triangle offense to perfection. Lakers owners Jerry and

Jim Buss curiously chose D'Antoni to replace Brown over Jackson, who strongly contemplated a return for a third stint on the Los Angeles bench. Jackson became the president of the Knicks in March.

Kupchak said he will begin the search immediately for the Lakers' fifth head coach since 2011 — including Jackson, who walked away from the team after falling short of a third consecutive championship.

D'Antoni's departure will allow the Lakers' overhaul to begin in earnest after their worst season since 1957-58 back in Minneapolis. Los Angeles missed the postseason for just the second time in the 17-season career of Bryant, who occasionally clashed with D'Antoni.

The Lakers have a top-10 pick in a strong draft and just three players under contract for next season, including Nash and Bryant. The fourth-leading scorer in NBA history will make more

than \$48 million over the next two years.

D'Antoni realized he would take the blame for the Lakers' woes this season, and the veteran coach seemed comfortable with the prospect when the team packed up for the summer.

"Every coach should be under scrutiny," D'Antoni said two weeks ago. "Some coaches get fired even after the best years they've ever had. ... There's always things we could have done better, and it's easier with hindsight. Things don't always go smoothly. For the most part, our guys were very competitive. For us, there are some silver linings in there, but in hindsight, it's disappointing for everybody." □

In this April 13, 2014, file photo, Los Angeles Lakers head coach Mike D'Antoni gestures to his team during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Memphis Grizzlies in Los Angeles. □

Amir Khan still keeping Mayweather in sight



In this April 27, 2013, file photo, Britain's Amir Khan, right, lands a punch on his way to a points win over Mexico's Julio Diaz during their welterweight boxing fight at Sheffield's Motorpoint Arena, in Sheffield, England.

TIM DAHLBERG

AP Boxing Writer

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Amir Khan got a fight in the weight division he wanted and on the card he wanted.

He just didn't get the opponent he wanted.

A loser in the sweepstakes to fight Floyd Mayweather Jr., Khan had to settle for the next best thing: A spot on top of the undercard on Saturday in Mayweather's welterweight title fight against Marcos Maidana. "I would have loved to fight Floyd Mayweather, but I believe it's really for the best," Khan said. "It gives me a chance to get to 147 (pounds) and feel my way."

Khan moves up from light welterweight to welterweight to fight former champion Luis Collazo in a fight that will do more than just test his ability at the higher weight. It could also serve as an audition for a possible fight against Mayweather in September, assuming Mayweather does what oddsmakers here expect and beats Maidana. The silver medalist for Eng-

land in the 2004 Olympics is in desperate need of a big win to kick start a stalled career. Khan will be fighting for the first time in more than a year, and he struggled in his last outing last April to beat Julio Diaz in Sheffield, England.

"People always remember you from your last fight, and my last fight wasn't my best," Khan said. "We want to steal the show and have fans talking about our fight."

Khan was more than just in the running to fight Mayweather at the MGM Grand hotel. He and Maidana were the two finalists in an online poll Mayweather conducted to have fans pick his opponent.

Fans picked Khan, but Mayweather went with Maidana anyway. The decision stung even more because Khan passed on a welterweight title fight with Devon Alexander in December so he wouldn't jeopardize his shot at Mayweather.

Khan (28-3, 19 knockouts) was philosophical about not getting the Mayweather fight, saying it gives him more time to work with new

trainer Virgil Hunter while also adapting to a new weight class. But he recognizes Mayweather can't be on his mind when he enters the ring before a capacity crowd waiting to see Mayweather fight Maidana.

"People are saying I'm looking past Luis Collazo for Floyd Mayweather," Khan said. "If I lose this fight, there is no fight with Floyd." Collazo is not the kind of fighter anyone can overlook, though Khan is a 3-1 favorite among this city's oddsmakers. Collazo (35-5, 18 knockouts) is a former two-time champion coming off an impressive knockout of Victor Ortiz, who in 2006 gave Khan's countryman Ricky Hatton a tough fight before losing a decision.

Khan, who beat Maidana in 2011, has been working with Hunter in his last two fights after splitting with Freddie Roach. He said he has improved his defense and gotten away from the wild brawling that has cost him at critical times in his career.

"I used to take silly shots; I used to jump onto a lot

of the shots, which I believe are probably twice as hard as when you do get hit," Khan said. "So we've worked on being smart, being patient, using the defense and the offense at the right time. He's making me understand the sport of boxing."

Despite losing out on fighting Mayweather, Khan is getting the same \$1.5 million payday that Maidana

will receive. It could be much bigger in his next fight should he feel comfortable at his new weight and look good against Collazo.

"I'm so much stronger, I haven't killed myself making weight like in the past," Khan said. "It used to be the last seven, eight pounds were the hardest. I'd stop eating and drinking. Now I can eat what I want when I want." □

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Quail Hollow

Continued from Page 17

And he wound up with the start he wanted at a tournament he badly wants to win.

"It was important for me to get off to a good start today because I haven't played as well as I would like to this year, and I haven't been getting off to great starts," Mickelson said. "So I'm always playing from behind. And it feels great to get off to a quick start where I don't have to feel like I'm playing catch-up."

Webb Simpson, the former U.S. Open champion and a member at Quail Hollow, might have joined Cabrera except for the way he finished each nine. He took double bogey on No. 9 when he hit into the trees and three-putted, and made bogey on No. 18 with another wayward tee shot. Other than that, his card was filled with seven birdies for a 68.

Stewart Cink and Jonathan Byrd also were at 68.



Phil Mickelson watches his tee shot on the fourth hole during the first round of the Wells Fargo Championship golf tournament in Charlotte, N.C., Thursday, May 1, 2014.

Associated Press

Rory McIlroy also had a few patches of wild play — a tee shot down the side of the hill toward the water on No. 16, another that hit a tree and bounced so far left that Boy Wonder thought about play-

ing a shot down a service road behind the corporate tents. Wiser heads prevailed — his caddie's, in this case — and he limited the damage to bogey. He still made six birdies and was in the large group at

69 that included U.S. Open champion Justin Rose and Martin Kaymer, who played his final four holes in 2-under par despite not making a birdie or a par. Kaymer went bogey-eagle-eagle-bogey.

"Two eagles in a row, pretty rare. I don't think I've ever done that before," Kaymer said. "I missed a lot of short putts today as well, so therefore, 3-under par is OK."

Cabrera's round was not nearly that dramatic. He made a couple of long putts, most of the birdie chances one would expect to make and hit it close enough times to post his lowest score of the year, and only his fourth round this year in the 60s.

"It was a very good first round, and we have a lot to go," the Argentine said through a translator.

Even though he struggled to hit fairways, this wouldn't classify as a wild round by Mickelson's standards. But there was rarely a dull moment.

From the trees on the par-

5 10th, he escaped with a strong shot just short of the green, only to hit his chip too hard and nearly roll off the green. He holed that from 10 feet for birdie. From the pine straw left of the 11th fairway, he hit a low bullet in good shape just short of the green, only to catch his chip too heavy and leave himself 25 feet short. He made that one for par. And he caught Cabrera at 6 under for the first time with another shot from the pine straw to 4 feet.

But then, Mickelson hit another chip too hard and failed to save par from 15 feet. He tied for the lead again with a solid pitch to 2 feet for birdie on the par-5 15th.

The final three holes were symbolic of the grind.

He rammed a 30-foot birdie attempt some 6 feet past the hole and made that for par. He left a 45-foot birdie putt about 5 feet short and missed that for a three-putt bogey on the 17th. And made a remarkable recovery from a tough lie in a bunker on the 18th. □

Enjoy special events and unique promotions year round. Both table and slot players are invited to join our Players' Club and earn valuable points while they play.

Special Promotions

LITTLE WHITE DRESS - Mondays

Patrons receive a \$10 Match Play Coupon good for table play, by simply presenting themselves at the Players' Club desk, dressed in white.

50-50-50 POKER TOURNAMENT - on Tuesdays; cards fly 8pm!

Buy-in \$50 + \$10 for 8K in Tournament chips; an additional \$10 Dealer add-on for 2K in chips. See Flyer for details.

BIBA ARUBA AFTER PARTY - Tuesdays from 7pm to midnight

Hourly raffles for \$50 Free Play

LADY LUCK BINGO - Wednesdays at 7pm and 8:30pm

- BINGO cards available at the Casino Cage
- US\$1 per Card
- Full Card BINGO within the first 50 calls, pays \$1,000; Call 51 and over pays \$100

MATCH & WIN THURSDAYS - 7pm, 8pm and 9pm

- Earn entry tickets all week for Match & Win Prizes
- Every 10 points accumulated on your Players' Club card, gets you a Match & Win entry ticket!!!
- Each participant gets to match and win exciting prizes
- BIG EVENT with BIGGER PRIZES every last Thursday of the month
- See flyer for details

FREEZE OUT FRIDAY POKER TOURNAMENT - cards fly 8pm!

- Buy-in \$100 + \$20 = 10K in Tournament chips

SATURDAYS AND SUNDAY - 1pm

- Mega BINGO with a Progressive Jackpot of over \$ 22,000,- / AWG. 40,000,- (see flyer for details)
- Double points from 4pm to 8pm

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WIN \$ 100 CASH with our POKER ROOM'S "BEST HAND OF THE NIGHT" promotion

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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DOUBLE POINTS - Monday through Friday, 12 noon to 4pm; Saturday and Sunday 4pm to 8pm

TRIPLE POINTS - Monday through Friday, 12 midnight to 3am

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THE CASINO
ARUBA

As Facebook matures, it looks to grow mobile reach

BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)

— Mark Zuckerberg, like Facebook, is maturing. The soon-to-be 30-year-old chief executive of the decade-old social networking company grew reflective as he stood before hundreds of app developers to announce a host of mobile features designed to put “people first.”

“We used to have this famous mantra, ‘move fast and break things,’” Zuckerberg said at Facebook’s f8 developer conference in San Francisco.

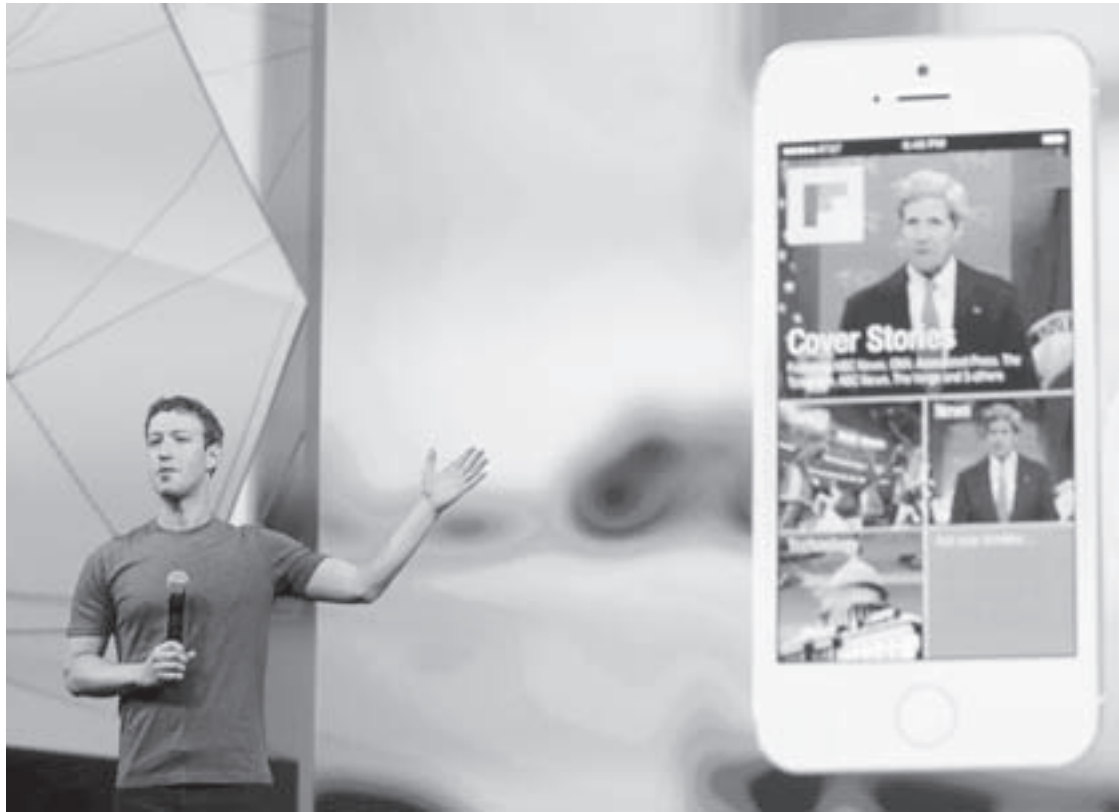
But moving quickly was sometimes so important that Facebook’s engineers would tolerate a few bugs, or push out products that were not always fully baked. Fixing the bugs, Zuckerberg said, “was slowing us down.” Backpedaling on features that didn’t work — or that users didn’t like — slowed things, too, though Zuckerberg did not mention that.

Facebook’s new mantra may not be as sexy. Zuckerberg pointed to a new sign that read “Move fast with stable infra,” as in infrastructure, and the audience laughed. Stability, it turns out, is the new maxim, and the era of breaking things is over.

In a rare bit of onstage rumination reflecting on the past decade, Zuckerberg said he and other Facebook employees realized they had created a culture of quick-witted, fast-moving engineers who took pride in being “hackers” who consistently put the company’s best interests ahead of what users wanted.

Now, Zuckerberg says, the goal is “to build a culture of loving the people we serve that is as strong if not stronger than our culture of hacking at Facebook. I hope you can see the seeds of some of this today in what we are talking about.”

The last time Facebook held a conference for app developers was in 2011. That was before the company attracted 1.28 billion users, before it went



Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg gestures while delivering the keynote address at the f8 Facebook Developer Conference Wednesday, April 30, 2014, in San Francisco.

Associated Press

public, before it began showing mobile advertisements and before it paid eye-popping amounts of money to acquire popular apps like Instagram and WhatsApp.

In the tech world, three years can be a lifetime. Facebook’s focus is now squarely on the mobile space, not just its own applications but those built by outside developers.

“As you get older you do gain perspective, and Facebook has,” said David Kirkpatrick, author of “The Facebook Effect,” a chronicle of the company’s early years.

“It’s astonishing that a 10-year-old company should be in a position to have as much influence in so many things in society as they do,” he said. “And I think they are starting to take a much more serious approach to the opportunity and responsibility that goes along with their scale.”

As part of its mobile, people-first focus, Facebook says it will let users log in to apps anonymously, without sharing their identities and personal information with mobile applications they don’t trust.

Facebook’s users can already use a “log in with Facebook” button to sign

up for apps that let them listen to music, play games, read the news and monitor fitness activities. But using the button allows apps to access information related to the Facebook user’s identity.

With the anonymous login, Facebook will have information about users but the apps won’t. Zuckerberg said the feature will let more people to try out new apps that they may not trust yet with their personal information. App developers have the option of including the anonymous login as a feature, but they won’t have to.

The company is also launching more granular controls that let people determine the types of in-

formation they share with apps when they want to use their Facebook identity to log in. Previously, apps could decide what information they wanted to access on people’s Facebook pages — such as people’s birthday, friends list or email address. Now, people can uncheck each, or all of these things. Analysts suspect Facebook’s evolution isn’t as much an epiphany about privacy as it is about Zuckerberg’s realization that the company has to take steps to ensure it holds on to its users and grapples with more competition.

“If Facebook has some sense that they are going to walk away because they don’t feel like they

are being put first, then they have a real problem on their hands. So, they are giving users some new features that they have been looking for a long time,” said Gartner analyst Brian Blau.

Facebook also took the wraps off its long-awaited mobile advertising network, called “Audience Network,” a product that enables Facebook to sell ads in mobile applications besides its own. For example, Coca Cola can show ads on a mobile game that a Facebook user has downloaded on his or her phone. The service will increase its competition with Google, which dominates the mobile advertising market and has its own ad network. Twitter is expected to announce its own, too.

“Everything is going mobile right now, so in order to compete with companies like Google, it needs to have a strong mobile app, which it already does, and a strong way of delivering mobile advertising — not just within Facebook but across a network of mobile apps,” said Debra Aho Williamson, an analyst with research firm eMarketer.

Williamson believes Facebook’s ad network will help improve the health of the overall advertising business. Many mobile apps will likely be eager to work with Facebook because its social network already has relationships with more than 1 million advertisers and has accumulated valuable insights into people’s interests. □

Microsoft releases security update for Internet Explorer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Microsoft is releasing a security update for Internet Explorer that closes a gap that allowed attackers to take complete control of a computer. It also issued the update to Windows XP users, despite dropping support for the older operating system last month.

The update will go live at 10

a.m. Pacific time Thursday. Adrienne Hall, general manager of Microsoft Trustworthy Computing, said in a statement that the company decided to fix the problem quickly for all customers, saying it takes the security of its products “incredibly seriously.” Microsoft reported the problem Saturday, saying

it was aware of “limited, targeted attacks” and that the vulnerability affected Internet Explorer versions 6 through 11.

The company said users with automatic updates enabled don’t need to take any action.

Online: Blog posts: <http://bit.ly/1kxFlrG>, <http://bit.ly/1pT0ck5>. □

Oil tumbles down to around \$99 a barrel

PABLO GORONDI
Associated Press

The price of oil was down again Thursday after falling below \$100 a barrel for the first time in three weeks on slower U.S. economic growth and higher supplies. By early afternoon in Europe, benchmark U.S. crude oil for June delivery was down 94 cents to \$98.80 on the New York

Mercantile Exchange. Brent crude, an international oil benchmark, was down \$1.10 to \$106.97 on the ICE Futures exchange in London.

On Wednesday, U.S. crude plunged \$1.54 and Brent fell 91 cents after U.S. first-quarter economic growth of just 0.1 percent disappointed forecasters who expected an expansion of

about 1 percent. Meanwhile, the U.S. Energy Department said oil supplies rose by 1.7 million barrels last week. While the increase was less than expected by analysts, it still pushed the nation's supply to a record 399.4 million barrels. In addition, gasoline supplies rose by 1.6 million barrels, whereas analysts had expected a

decline. China, the world's second-largest economy, was also a source of concerns after a manufacturing survey suggested growth was weak. Myrto Sokou of Succden Financial Research in London said the figures "weighed on market sentiment, verifying concerns about a slowdown in the oil demand from Asia." □

NYSE and three affiliates to pay \$4.5M penalty

WASHINGTON (AP) — The New York Stock Exchange and three affiliates have agreed to pay a \$4.5 million penalty to settle federal regulators' charges that they repeatedly violated rules governing the handling of orders and other practices.

The Securities and Exchange Commission announced Thursday the settlement with the NYSE, its trading platforms NYSE Arca and NYSE MKT, and affiliated brokerage Archipelago Securities. The organizations also agreed to hire an independent consultant. The NYSE and the three affiliates neither admitted nor denied the SEC allegations.

The SEC said the rule violations occurred from 2008 to 2012. They included operating a facility for trading blocks of stocks in a manner that didn't comply with the rules for a period of time, according to the SEC. In another case, the NYSE allegedly allowed some customers to operate their computer trading systems under different terms from others. The NYSE "failed to live up to its obligations" by failing to comply with its own rules in some cases and not having rules in other cases where it should, SEC Enforcement Director Andrew Ceresny told reporters in a conference call. The NYSE operates as a so-called self-regulatory organization, which requires it to comply with operating rules and also to monitor the compliance of companies that are members of the exchange.

The SEC did not allege that the NYSE's conduct harmed investors. But it said that some of the alleged violations, such as the differing terms for trading systems, could unfairly benefit some traders over others in the absence of a rule to ensure fair treatment.

The SEC has been investigating the practice of co-location, in which high-speed trading firms rent computer space close to an exchange's system. □

Encouraging news on economy fails to lift stocks

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Encouraging news on the U.S. economy wasn't enough to give the stock market its fourth straight day of gains. Manufacturing grew faster in April than in March as exports picked up and factories accelerated hiring. U.S. shoppers ramped up their spending in March at the fastest pace in 4½ years and construction spending also ticked higher. The reports, coming a day after the Commerce Department said U.S. growth stalled in the January-March quarter, suggest that the economy is gaining momentum after the unusually harsh winter. The market remains close to its all-time highs, but for now investors, uncertain about which way the economy is headed, appear reluctant to push stocks higher.

"The data was good, but not robust enough to completely eliminate doubts over whether the first quarter was entirely weather-related," said Anthony Valeri, an investment strategist for LPL Financial.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 0.27 points, or less than 0.1 percent, to 1,883.68. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 21.97 points, or 0.1 percent, to 16,558.87. The Dow closed at an all-time high on Wednesday. The Nasdaq composite rose 12.90 points, or 0.3 percent, to 4,127.45.

Investors' reaction to the economic reports was also likely muted ahead of Friday's April jobs report, Valeri said. Economists are predicting U.S. employers

added 210,000 jobs last month and that the unemployment rate dipped to 6.6 percent from 6.7 percent. On Thursday, stocks moved between small gains and losses for most of the day as investors also assessed the latest round of company earnings and reports of a potential deal. Dish Network climbed \$3.35, or 5.9 percent, to \$60.21 after The Wall Street

Journal reported that AT&T had approached the satellite TV provider about a possible acquisition. A deal would likely be worth about \$40 billion, the Journal reported. The report came after news Wednesday that power company Exelon agreed to buy Pepco Holdings for \$6.8 billion. "That corporate balance sheet, which was very conservative for a while, is start-

ing to unlock," said Jerry Braakman, chief investment officer of First American Trust. In earnings news, Avon Products slumped \$1.56, or 10.2 percent, to \$13.72 after the beauty products company said its first-quarter loss widened, stung by volatile currency moves in Venezuela and weak revenue across all regions. Profit and revenue fell short of Wall Street ex-



Trader Peter Tuchman, center, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Encouraging news on the U.S. economy wasn't enough to give the stock market its fourth straight day of gains. (AP Photo)

Journal reported that AT&T had approached the satellite TV provider about a possible acquisition. A deal would likely be worth about \$40 billion, the Journal reported. The report came after news Wednesday that power company Exelon agreed to buy Pepco Holdings for \$6.8 billion.

"That corporate balance sheet, which was very conservative for a while, is start-

ing to unlock," said Jerry Braakman, chief investment officer of First American Trust. In earnings news, MasterCard and Yelp were among the companies that gained after reporting their latest quarterly earnings. MasterCard rose 67 cents, or 0.9 percent, to \$74.22 after the company reported that its net income climbed 14 percent in the first quarter as more spending by cardholders worldwide lifted the company's results. Yelp rose \$5.70, or 9.8

percent, to \$64.02 after the company said late Wednesday that its first-quarter loss narrowed as more local businesses signed up for the online review site's services. The results were better than the market expected, and the company raised its revenue guidance for the year. Overall, the trend in U.S. company earnings has been steady, if not spectacular, improvement. More than 60 percent of the companies in the S&P 500 have reported earnings for the first quarter. Analysts expect earnings for the period to rise by 1.7 percent, compared with growth of almost 8 percent in the fourth quarter and 5.2 percent in the same period a year ago, according to data from S&P Capital IQ. □

Exxon Mobil profit falls for a 4th quarter running

CLIFFORD KRAUSS

© 2014 New York Times

HOUSTON - For the fourth quarter in a row, Exxon Mobil on Thursday reported lower profit because of falling production volumes and disappointing earnings from its international refining and chemicals businesses.

But analysts said the results exceeded expectations in large part because the company succeeded in cutting costs, particularly in exploration for oil and gas, which helped increase the company's profitability. Rising U.S. natural gas prices,

largely because of cold winter, also helped Exxon Mobil, which is the largest domestic gas producer.

Nevertheless the company, like several of the international majors, continues to struggle to keep production up even as smaller independent companies are benefiting more from the drilling boom across the shale oil and gas fields in North Dakota and Texas. Exxon Mobil's oil and gas production declined 5.6 percent compared with a year ago.

Exxon Mobil is heavily invested in Russia, adding to

concerns about its ability to expand in the future should Western sanctions tighten in response to Russian policies toward Ukraine. Nevertheless the company raised its quarterly dividend by 10 percent Wednesday.

"The company is off to a good start in 2014," said Brian M. Youngberg, senior energy analyst at Edward Jones. "Oil volumes held up better and were more in line with expectations. However, volumes continued their downward trend overall, and we continue to doubt the company can attain its goal of keeping

volumes flat in 2014 relative to 2013 and then grow beginning in 2015."

Youngberg noted that the last quarter that Exxon Mobil showed improving profits was the first quarter of last year. Still, he added, "If they can improve earnings per barrel without growth, investors will likely be accepting of that."

Exxon, based in Texas and still the largest domestic oil company, reported first-quarter net income of \$9.1 billion, reduced from \$9.5 billion a year ago. Revenue eased slightly to \$106.8 billion, from \$108.8 billion a

year ago.

Despite the lackluster results, there were bright spots. The company managed to cut its capital and exploration costs by 28 percent, burnishing its reputation as one of the most disciplined companies in the global oil patch.

Company executives continue to express optimism that they can ramp up profitable oil and gas production again over the next few years with help from projects in Argentina, Papua New Guinea, Tanzania, Malaysia, Indonesia and Russia. □

Ford Motor chief executive Alan Mulally set to retire

BILL VLASIC

© 2014 New York Times

DEARBORN, Mich. - Ford Motor said Thursday that its chief executive, Alan R. Mulally, would retire on July 1 and be succeeded by Mark Fields, a veteran executive who has played a crucial role in the company's turnaround.

Mulally had been expected to retire this year, ending a spectacular run as chief executive since joining Ford when it was struggling for survival in 2006.

The transition to Fields, a 25-year veteran of the company, as leader of the nation's second-largest automaker has also been widely expected since he was elevated to chief operating officer two years ago.

Still, Mulally's departure will

end an era at Ford, in which the company borrowed billions of dollars to pay for a deep restructuring that allowed the company to avoid the bankruptcies and

bailouts that overcame its chief U.S. rivals, General Motors and Chrysler. "Alan deservedly will be long remembered for engineering one of the most success-

ful business turnarounds in history," said William Clay Ford Jr., the company's executive chairman. "Under Alan's leadership, Ford not only survived the global economic crisis, it emerged as one of the world's strongest auto companies."

Mulally, 68, joined Ford from Boeing and immediately began streamlining the company by trimming vehicle programs and realigning its vast bureaucracy and regional divisions under a turnaround plan known as One Ford.

Fields played a big part in the comeback as the head of the automaker's Americas division, which cut thousands of jobs and closed factories to better align Ford's production with its U.S. market share. Since becoming chief operating

officer in December 2012, he has become increasingly visible in the company, running the weekly strategy meetings and overseeing Ford's global auto operations.

"Under Alan's leadership, we have seen the power of One Ford and what a culture of positive leadership and working together can accomplish," Fields said. "My commitment is to build on that success by accelerating our pace of progress."

Fields will face big challenges in the coming year as the new chief executive, including overseeing the introduction of the first pickup truck with a body made mostly out of aluminum and continuing to pare the company's losses in Europe. □



Alan Mulally, chief executive of Ford, speaks with reporters at Ford's Michigan Assembly Plant in Wayne, Mich. Ford Motor said Thursday, May 1, 2014, that Mulally, will retire on July 1 and be replaced by Mark Fields, a veteran executive who has played a crucial role in the company's turnaround.

(Fabrizio Costantini/The New York Times)

MasterCard first quarter profit rises 14 percent

ALEX VEIGA

AP Business Writer

MasterCard's net income climbed 14 percent in the first quarter, as increased spending by cardholders worldwide helped boost revenue.

The results beat Wall Street estimates, sending the Purchase, New York-company's shares higher in afternoon trading Thursday.

The company also flagged that it sees potentially serious complications from a proposed payments law

that Russia is considering. Lawmakers in Russia are eyeing enacting changes to the structure of the domestic payments market in response to the impact of sanctions by the West amid rising tensions in the Ukraine. Although Russia accounts for roughly 2 percent of MasterCard's revenue, the company is worried about the impact a new payments market law would have on MasterCard's business.

"There are provisions there

that I believe would create serious complications for the way that we can operate in that market," MasterCard President and CEO Ajay Banga said during a conference call with Wall Street analysts.

Banga noted that the situation is fluid, which makes it difficult to gauge the potential impact of any new payments laws beyond this year.

"Overall, we expect a small impact from this current Russian situation on our re-

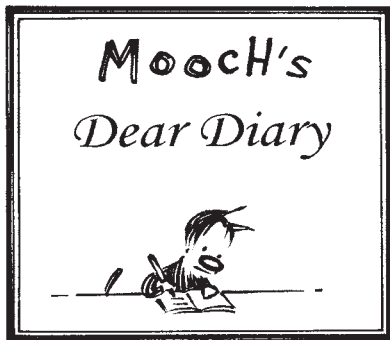
sults for 2014," Banga said. Despite its concerns, the company did not update its 2014 earnings guidance. MasterCard is the world's second-largest processor of debit and credit card payments. Like its bigger rival, Visa Inc., it benefits from heightened consumer spending.

An unusually bitter winter sent factories, hiring and consumer spending into hibernation earlier this year, but spending rebounded last month. U.S. consumer

spending jumped 0.9 percent in March, the largest monthly gain since April 2009, the Commerce Department said Thursday. The department also raised its estimate of the spending increase in February to 0.5 percent from 0.3 percent.

Worldwide purchase volume during the January-March quarter vaulted 12.7 percent to \$759 billion versus a year earlier. Spending on purchases rose nearly 9 percent in the U.S. to \$268 billion. □

Mutts



5-1

WENT OVER to The
dark side

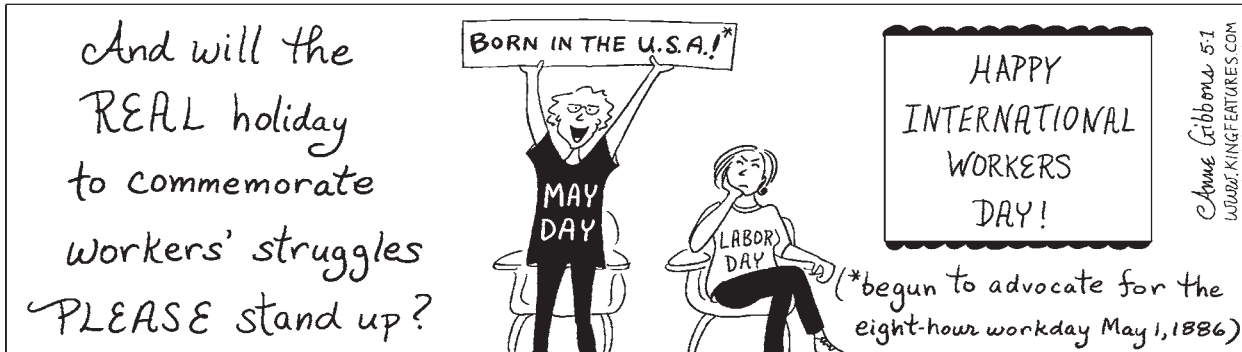
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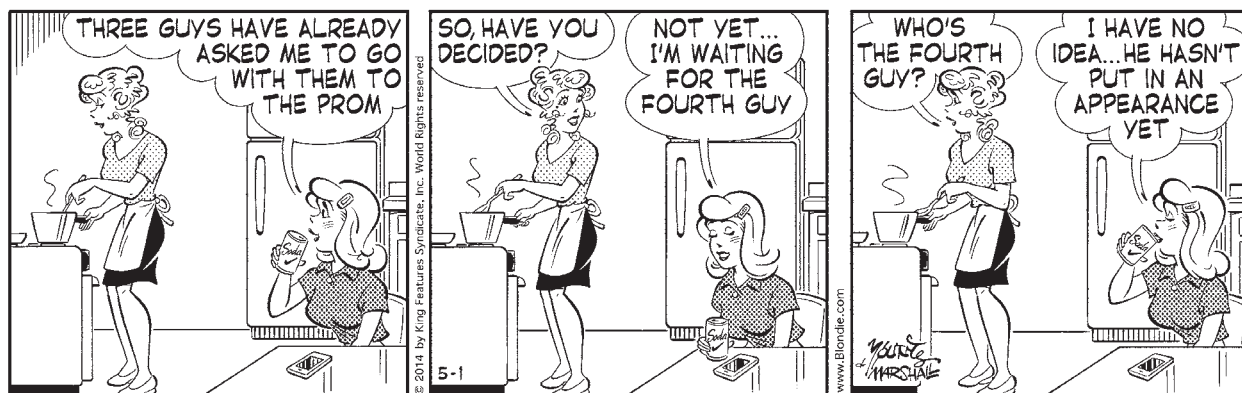
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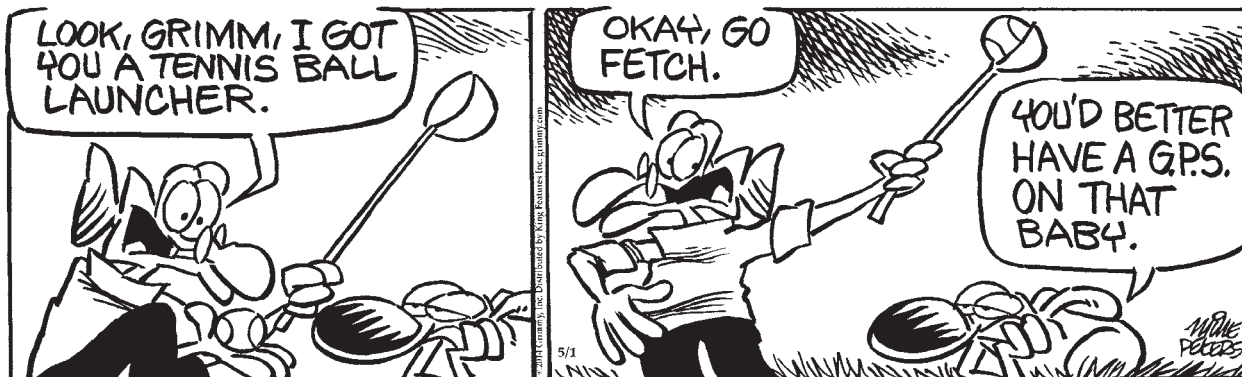
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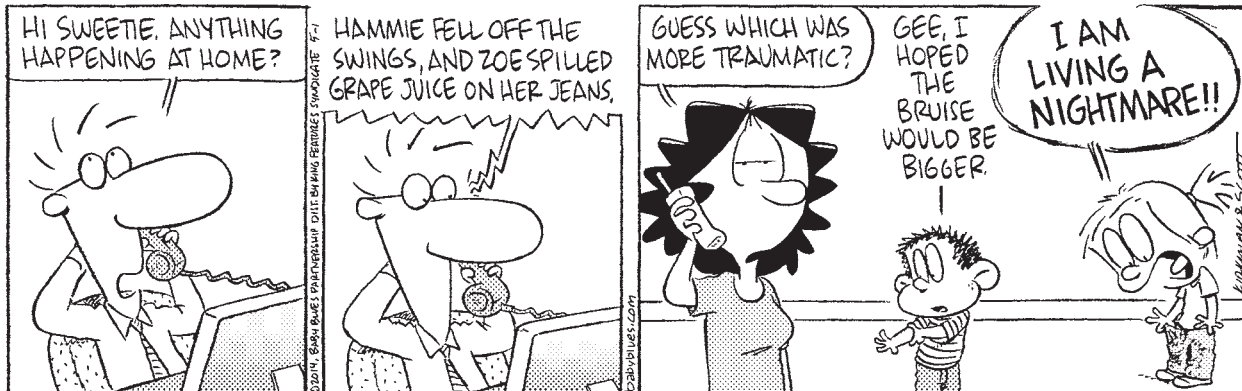
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

6		2		7		8		3
				4				
			3		5			
		7				2		
1	6			9			4	5
		5				9		
			7		1			
				2				
7		9		5		4		8

Difficulty Level ★★

5/01

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

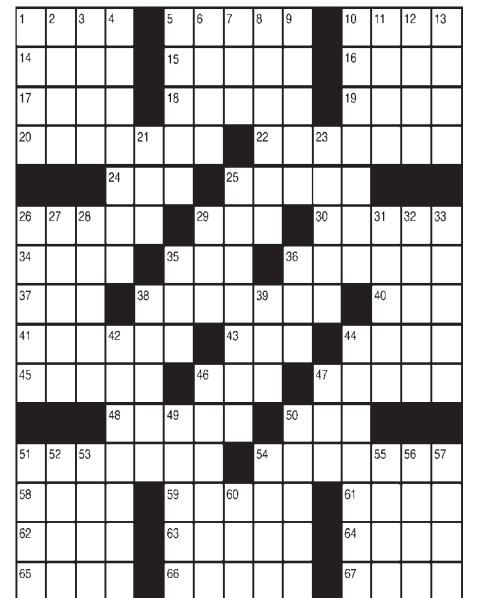
5	4	9	3	8	1	7	2	6
8	3	2	9	7	6	4	1	5
1	6	7	5	2	4	8	9	3
4	9	5	1	6	3	2	7	8
6	7	1	8	4	2	5	3	9
2	8	3	7	5	9	6	4	1
7	1	4	6	3	8	9	5	2
3	5	8	2	9	7	1	6	4
9	2	6	4	1	5	3	8	7

ACROSS

- In this place
- Uncomfortable breeze
- Topmost point
- Reason to study
- Large sea duck
- TV's Perlman
- Houston school
- Worship
- Creamy drink
- Germfree
- Vacation spots
- Colony insect
- Fragrant wood
- Fill wall holes with putty
- for the course; normal
- Banquet
- on to; saved
- Melody
- Water parted by Moses
- Rainbow, e.g.
- Groups of eight keyboard notes
- Daddies
- Violently hostile
- Policeman
- Sensed
- Spine-chilling
- VP Quayle
- Hose down
- Wild winds
- PC alternative
- Gave a word's meaning
- "100 of beer on the wall..."
- Dines
- Enthusiastic
- Sound portion of a telecast
- Dubuque, —
- Work the soil
- Glasgow folks
- Unlock
- Actress Sheedy
- Uptight
- Bookish fellow

DOWN

- His and —
- Leave a room
- Runner's competition
- Green gem
- with; handled, as a situation
- Carousel or Ferris wheel
- Commotion
- Mel or José
- Pine-covered
- Like a Brink's truck
- Scorch
- Liquefy
- Pen contents
- Bank vaults
- Capital of Venezuela
- Rub so as to make sore
- Eagle's nest
- Peptic —; stomach woe
- Prune stone
- Fluttering tree
- Closes tightly
- One of the five senses
- Highest heart
- Boehner or Pelosi: abbr.



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

5/1/14

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

O	C	H	E	R	S	P	I	N	S	T	O	P
W	H	O	L	E	C	E	D	E	T	R	U	E
L	O	S	E	S	A	T	O	P	R	E	N	T
S	P	E	C	T	E	R	S	A	P	I	E	C
T	A	M	E	P	L	U	N	D	E	R		
C	H	A	S	T	E	G	O	I	N	G		
O	A	K	E	R	R	O	R	K	E	A	T	S
S	T	I	R	Y	O	D	E	L	D	I	R	E
T	E	N	E	T	A	L	D	E	R	M	E	T
						W	O	O	D	E	S	
O	C	T	O	P	O	U	S	H	U	G	E	S
T	H	I	R	S	T	S	E	P	A	R	A	T
H	I	N	D	A	R	E	A	T	I	B	I	A
E	D	G	E	G	I	R	L	T	A	L	E	S
R	E	E	D	E	B	B	S	A	L	E	R	T

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5/1/14

- Body of water
- Germany's Otto —
- In a stiff way
- Novel's genre
- Figure out
- Traitor
- Minimum
- Bullwinkle, e.g.
- Facts & figures
- Wickedness
- Mend cavities
- Tiny pieces
- Easy stride
- Pitcher
- Beach surface
- Actor Ameche

Toronto Mayor

Continued from page 2

Nelson Wiseman, a political science professor at the University of Toronto, said the latest developments reinforced his belief that Ford had no chance of re-election and was likely to withdraw from the race.

"This will peel away a few more voters," Wiseman said. "People do not like being lied to, repeatedly, to their faces."

Earlier, Doug Ford choked back tears as he addressed reporters.

"Rob was very emotional when he told me the hardest thing about this is he knows he let people down. He let his family down, he let his friends down, he let his colleagues down, he let his supporters down and the people of Toronto," said Doug Ford, who is also the mayor's campaign manager.

In a letter to the city clerk indicating he would take a leave of absence, Ford did not specify the length of his leave, saying only that he will provide updates on his status, according to Jackie DeSouza, a spokeswoman for the City of Toronto.

Ford has careened from one scandal to another, including public drunkenness and threatening "murder" in a videotaped rant. □

FLEAMARKET
ROCOO PLAZA
SUNDAY 4 May
Start 9am Ph 7415640
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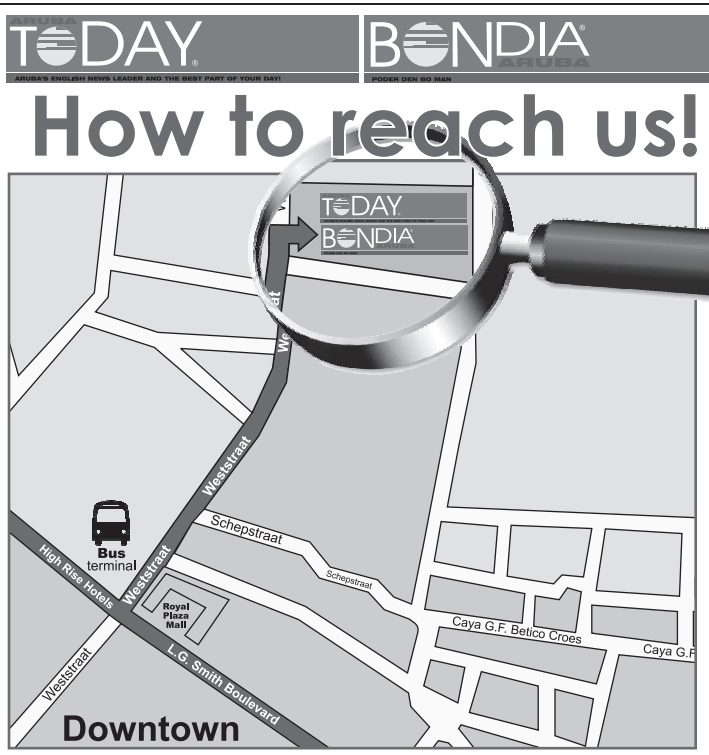
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Experiment grows new muscle in men's injured legs

LAURAN NEERGAARD

AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) —

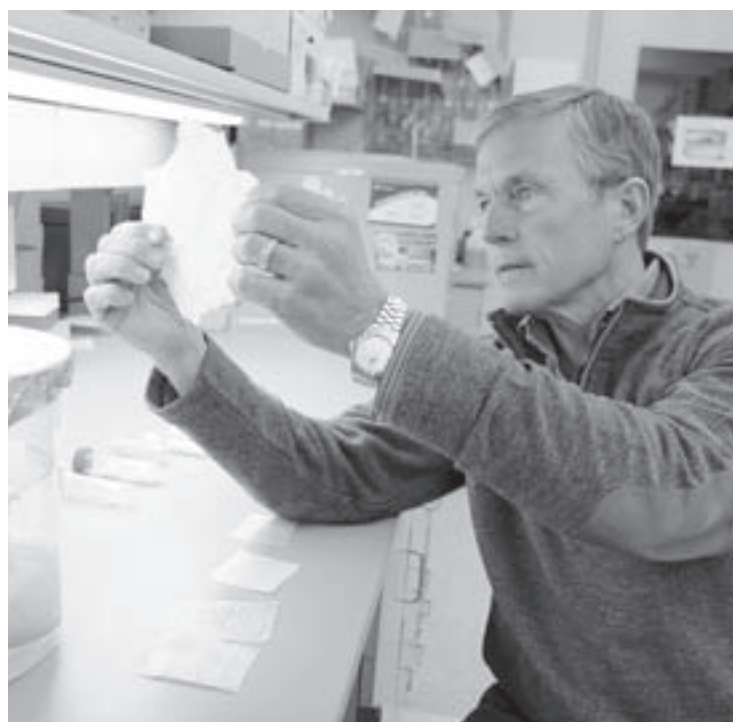
Scientists implanted thin sheets of scaffolding-like material from pigs into a few young men with disabling leg injuries — and say the experimental treatment coaxed the men's own stem cells to regrow new muscle.

The research, funded by the Defense Department, included just five patients, a small first step in the complex quest for regenerative medicine.

But the researchers described some of the men improving enough to no longer need canes, or to ride a bicycle again, after years of living with injuries that today have no good treatment.

"The real rush for someone like myself is to see this patient being able to do these things and not struggle and have a smile on his face," said Dr. Stephen Badylak of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He led the study, which was reported Wednesday in the journal *Science Translational Medicine*.

Muscles have some natural ability to regenerate after small injuries. But if too much is lost — from a car accident, a sports injury or, for soldiers, a bomb blast — the body can't heal properly. Hard scar tissue fills the gap instead. Called volumetric muscle



This undated handout photo provided by the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center shows Dr. Stephen Badylak, a surgery professor at the university, and deputy director of the McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine, holding a sheet of "extracellular matrix," scaffolding-like material derived from pig bladder. His team implanted a similar version, designed for use in humans, into a handful of men with severe leg injuries and reported Wednesday that the experimental treatment helped regrow muscle.

Associated Press

loss, a severe enough injury can leave an arm or leg essentially useless.

The new experiment combines bioengineering with a heavy dose of physical therapy to spur stem cells that are roaming the body to settle on the injury and turn into the right kind of tissue to repair it.

First, surgeons remove the scar tissue.

Then they implant something called an "extracellular matrix" derived from pigs. It's the connective scaffolding that remains after cells are removed

from a tissue. (Without cells, the immune system doesn't reject it.) Such material has been used for many years as a kind of mesh in treatments for skin ulcers and in hernia repair.

What's new here: The matrix temporarily fills in the injury, between edges of remaining muscle. As the scaffolding slowly degrades, it releases chemical signals that attract stem cells to the site, Badylak said.

Then physical therapy puts tension on the spot, in turn signaling the stem cells that they need to form strong, stretchy muscle tissue, he said. Without the exercise, Badylak cautioned, those cells won't get the message to boost muscle mass, and scar tissue could return.

To start proving that's what happens, Badylak's team first removed chunks of leg muscle from mice and administered the treatment. In-depth tests showed which cells moved in, and showed that they created working muscle.

Then it was time for human testing, with three military veterans and two civilians. Each had lost between 60 percent and 90 percent of an affected leg muscle — two from the thigh, the rest from the lower leg — anywhere from about a year to seven years earlier.

The men, in their 20s and 30s, underwent a few months of customized physical therapy to get their muscle function to its maximum capacity.

Then they received the implants, followed by more physical therapy that began within 48 hours after surgery.

Six months later, biopsies and medical scans showed some new muscle grew in all the men. Three patients were officially deemed a success because their legs were stronger by 20 percent or more after the surgery. They had dramatic improvements in tests showing they could hop or squat on the injured leg. Badylak said the two other men had some improvement in balance and quality of life, but not enough to meet the study's definition of success.

Nick Clark, 34, suffered severe muscle loss after he broke his lower leg in a skiing accident. He had a hard time balancing and taking stairs, and some-

times needed a cane. He tried to ride his bike but his left leg was too weak to pedal far.

He received the experimental therapy in 2012. It didn't restore him to normal, but he now reports biking "quite a distance" and playing pingpong, his left leg finally strong enough to pivot around the table.

"Day to day, that's had a pretty big impact just to be able to walk that much better," Clark said. "It's been a significant difference. I was hoping for more improvement when I first did it, but yeah, I'm definitely still pleased with it."

Researchers around the country are exploring different ways to spur the regeneration of various body parts, and many focus on injecting stem cells or tissues grown from them. Wednesday's approach is more novel.

"This strategy obviously has some merit," said professor George Christ of the Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine, who wasn't involved with the new study. While larger studies must verify the findings, "the concept of physical therapy coupled with these regenerative strategies is going to be really important."

The Pittsburgh study is continuing, and Badylak would like to test as many as 50 more patients. He said that the technique probably would work better after a recent injury but that researchers needed to begin with old injuries to prove that physical therapy alone couldn't explain the muscle regrowth. □



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Kevin Spacey takes us behind the curtain in film

MARK KENNEDY
AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Kevin Spacey put his body through a lot playing "Richard III" for over 200 shows and across three continents. Tumbling down a massive sand dune in Qatar didn't help. The "House of Cards" star found himself uncontrollably flipping over and over down a dune outside Doha during a fun day trip with the rest of the cast of the Shakespeare play. "I had no idea I was going to go at that speed. It was literally like a barrel rolling down a hill. It was a very funny moment," he said. "I'm still trying to get that sand out." Thankfully, someone got it all on tape: The Academy Award-winner's silly plummet is one of the lighter moments in a new feature documentary that captures Spacey and his troupe of 20 British and American actors during their 10-month international tour from 2011-2012. The film starts with rehears-

als at The Old Vic in London and follows the company to nine of the 12 cities on the tour, including stops at the ancient Greek amphitheater in Epidaurus, then on to Beijing, Istanbul, Sydney, Naples, San Francisco and winding up in New York City. Director Jeremy Whelehan, who was an associate producer of Spacey's film "Beyond the Sea" and an Old Vic assistant director, says the movie is as much for fans of the stage as it is for newcomers. "We wanted the film to relate to people who have never been to the theater and may roll their eyes at the thought of seeing a Shakespeare play," he said.

Whelehan and his team captured the actors exploring their roles, joking and laughing backstage, missing home and being excited by the cities they visit. They are seen walking along the Great Wall of China and visiting Qatar and Turkey during the Arab Spring with a sud-



This image released by Donna Daniels Public Relations shows actor Kevin Spacey speaking from the documentary, "NOW: In the Wings on a World Stage," that captures Spacey and his troupe of 20 British and American actors during their 10-month international tour of "Richard II" from 2011-2012.

Associated Press

denly very relevant story about a power-mad dictator. "It is a very intimate, be-

hind-the-scenes look. You get to go places that you don't normally ever get to go with a camera," said Spacey of the 90-minute film, called "NOW: In the Wings on a World Stage" and which has been started to be shown in select movie theaters nationwide this past week.

The documentary, which will also be available to download in the U.S. for \$12.99 and 209 countries starting Friday, grew out of the three-year Bridge Project, a trans-Atlantic partnership that united The Old Vic, The Brooklyn Academy of Music and Sam Mendes' Neal Street Productions.

The project included "The Winter's Tale," "The Cherry Orchard," "The Tempest" and "As You Like It," all directed by Mendes. In its final act, Spacey played the humpbacked Richard III for Mendes and took the evil king on tour. Spacey and Mendes battled around ideas about how best to commemorate the company.

"We both felt it was so unique that there had to be some way we could maybe capture it," says Spacey. They settled on a

documentary, but not a self-congratulatory one.

"I really didn't want to set out to make a kind of inside, lovey, aren't-we-fabulous thing, but more a real examination for people who just don't know what the process of doing theater is really like, a chance to peek behind that curtain," he said.

Whelehan said he and his crew tried to capture the three layers of each of the performers — as characters onstage, as working actors behind the scenes, and also as people. The company members offered full access in exchange for veto rights of anything embarrassing.

"They were so disarming and actually discreet and deferential that we just got used to it after a while," said Gemma Jones, who played Queen Margaret. "It was fairly honest, so I can't really complain."

Nathan Darrow, who played Lord Grey and the Earl of Richmond in the play, was happy the cameras showed that actors are just regular folks. "That people will get a window into the backstage is kind of beautiful and special," he said. □

Note in Cobain's wallet mocks wedding vows to Love

SEATTLE (AP) — A handwritten note police discovered in Kurt Cobain's wallet after his suicide disparages Courtney Love, the late Nirvana front man's wife. CBS News reported that the note was taken from Cobain's wallet when police arrived at his home on April 8, 1994, after Cobain fatally shot himself. The note was never made public. CBS obtained it from the Seattle Police via a public information request. The network reports that the undated note, apparently written by Cobain on stationery from San Francisco's Phoenix Hotel, is written like a mock wedding vow. It references Love as Cobain's "lawful shredded wife" who would be "siphoning" his money for drugs. Cobain's body was discovered in Seattle on April 8, 1994. An investigation determined that days earlier



This April 1994 photo from the Seattle Police Department shows a wallet containing Kurt Cobain's Washington state driver's license, found at the scene of his suicide, in Seattle.

Associated Press

Cobain had gone into the greenhouse of his home and taken a massive dose of heroin. He then shot himself with a 20-gauge shotgun. Earlier this year, in advance of the 20th anniversary of Cobain's suicide, a Seattle detective reviewed the case files, including evi-

dence photos and statements. He found no new information to change the police conclusion that Cobain took his own life.

Cobain, who was 27 when he died, sold millions of albums with Nirvana and helped popularize the Pacific Northwest's heavy, muddy "grunge" rock. □

Narciso Rodriguez cited as top fashion designer

BRETT ZONGKER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Fashion designer Narciso Rodriguez will receive a National Design Award this year from the Smithsonian's Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, along with 10 other top names in design.

Rodriguez designed the black and red dress worn by first lady Michelle

Obama in Chicago on election night in 2008. The dress recently went on display at the National Archives to represent her signature style. Earlier, Rodriguez designed Carolyn Bessette's wedding dress for her 1996 marriage to John F. Kennedy Jr.

The New York City-based Cooper Hewitt museum announced this year's recipients of the National Design Awards on Thursday. The first lady serves as honorary patron of the National Design Awards, which were launched at the White House in 2000.

A jury of design leaders and educators reviews nominations and selects winners. □



This Feb. 15, 2011 file photo shows designer Narciso Rodriguez backstage before the presentation of his Fall 2011 show at Lincoln Center during Fashion Week in New York.

Associated Press

'Belle' is diverse, female-led on and off camera



Actress Gugu Mbatha-Raw, left, and director Amma Asante, attend the New York premiere of "Belle" on Monday, April 28, 2014, in New York.

Associated Press

JESSICA HERNDON

AP Film Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — British director Amma Asante knows how hard it is to get a costume drama off the ground — especially when it stars a black female newcomer and is directed by a black female with only one previous film to her credit.

But for the 18th century-set "Belle," Asante fought for diversity and the feminine eye in front of and behind the camera. "We need a variety of lenses in which to tell these stories," she says. "Being in a strong position where you can make the decisions ... I have a responsibility to open up those opportunities."

Now, for its next hurdle: "Belle" opens in limited release on Friday, up against no other than "The Amazing Spider-Man 2," the summer's first blockbuster. But more on that later.

Based on real events, "Belle" tells the story of a mixed-race woman, Dido Elizabeth Belle, who was

raised in British aristocracy at a time when such a thing was unheard of. It not only stars English newbie Mbatha-Raw in the title role, but it was penned by black British writer Misan Sagay ("Their Eyes Were Watching God"), scored by Rachel Portman ("Chocolat"), the costumes were conceived by a woman and it was edited by women.

Asante points out that for women and minorities, landing quality jobs is difficult in the U.K., just as it is in America, since most producers envision a director that "doesn't come in my shape or color," she says. Having only one film under her belt didn't help her cause, either. (Her directorial debut, the BAFTA award-winning "A Way of Life," was released in 2004.) "But I've at least arrived at an age group that appears appropriate," laughs the 44-year-old in a recent phone interview from New York. Now, Asante is determined to get other ladies

in the door. "My stories are about women so why not have women help make them?"

That's not to say that a man or somebody not of color couldn't have done a great job on "Belle," says Mbatha-Raw over coffee in Los Angeles. "But the nuances Amma is interested in exploring come out from that perspective," she says. "She is very feminine and glamorous. She brings that quality and beauty out in 'Belle.'"

Intrigued by a double portrait he saw of Dido and her white cousin, Lady Elizabeth Murray, "Belle" producer Damian Jones ("The Iron Lady") knew he wanted to bring Dido's story to the screen — and that Asante should direct it. But, he says, "I was told, 'a black director with a black lead, good luck.' The project was a tough sale."

According to Asante, development of a "Belle" script for HBO began, and then fell through.

But with the help of the British Film Institute, production on a theatrical feature version of "Belle" began in 2012.

Still, the script went through a number of revisions before production began. "It had been a fight all the way because it was a different way of approaching the story," said Sagay.

"Belle" weaves in the historical 1781 Zong Massacre, in which 142 enslaved Africans were drowned in the Caribbean by the crew of the British slave ship Zong. The slave owners made an insurance claim for the loss of the slaves, which was challenged by the insurers and wound up in the British courts.

The chief justice ultimately deciding the case was Lord Mansfield (Tom Wilkinson), Dido's great uncle with whom she lived after her Royal Navy admiral father sets sail for the Indies. Mansfield ruled in favor of the insurers and his verdict led to the end of the British slave trade in 1807. □

Dylan's 'Like a Rolling Stone' heads to auction



This undated photo provided by Sotheby's shows a working draft of Bob Dylan's "Like a Rolling Stone," one of the most popular songs of all time.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — One of the most popular songs of all time, Bob Dylan's "Like a Rolling Stone," is going to auction this summer.

Sotheby's is offering a working draft of the finished song, in Dylan's own hand, for an estimated \$1 million to \$2 million.

The song is about a debutante who becomes a loner when she's cast from upper-class social circles.

The draft is written in pencil on four sheets of hotel letterhead stationery with revisions, additions, notes and doodles: a hat, a bird, an animal with antlers. The stationery comes from the Roger Smith hotel in Washington, D.C.

"How does it feel To be on your own" it says in Dylan's handwriting. "No direction home Like a complete unknown Like a rolling stone." Scrawls seem to reflect the artist's experimentation with rhymes.

The name "Al Capone" is scrawled in the margin, with a line leading to the lyrics "Like a complete unknown."

Another note says: "...dry vermouth, you'll tell the truth..."

Dylan was only 24 when he recorded the song in 1965. The auction is June 24 as part of Sotheby's rock and pop music sale. □

High Plains Moochers



PAUL KRUGMAN
© 2014 New York Times

It is, in a way, too bad that Cliven Bundy - the rancher who became a right-wing hero after refusing to pay fees for grazing his animals on federal land, and bringing in armed men to support his defiance - has turned out to be a crude racist. Why? Because his ranting has given conservatives an easy out, a way to dissociate themselves from his actions without facing up to the terrible wrong turn their movement has taken.

For at the heart of the standoff was a perversion of the concept of freedom, which for too much of the right has come to mean the freedom of the wealthy to do whatever they want, without regard to the consequences for others.

Start with the narrow issue of land use. For historical reasons, the federal government owns a lot of land in the West; some of that land is open to ranching, mining and so on. Like any landowner, the Bureau of Land Management charges fees for the use of its property. The only difference from private ownership is that by all accounts the government charges too little - that is, it doesn't collect as much money as it could, and in many cases doesn't even charge enough to cover the costs that these private activities impose. In effect, the government is using its ownership of land to subsidize ranchers and mining companies at taxpayers' expense.

It's true that some of the people profiting from implicit taxpayer subsidies manage, all the same, to convince themselves and others that they are rugged individualists. But they're actually welfare queens of the purple sage.

And this in turn means that treating Bundy as some kind of libertarian hero is, not to put too fine a point on it, crazy. Suppose he had been grazing his cattle on land belonging to one of his neighbors, and had refused to pay for the privilege. That would clearly have been theft - and brandishing guns when someone tried to stop the theft would have turned it into armed robbery. The fact that in this case the public owns the land shouldn't make any difference.

So what were people like Sean Hannity of Fox News, who went all in on Bundy's behalf, thinking? Partly, no doubt, it was the general demonization of govern-

ment - if someone looks as if he is defying Washington, he's a hero, never mind the details. Partly, one suspects, it was also about race - not Bundy's blatant racism, but the general notion that government takes money from hard-working Americans and gives it to Those People. White people who wear cowboy hats while profiting from government subsidies just don't fit the stereotype.

Most of all, however - or at least that's how it seems to me - the Bundy fiasco was a byproduct of the dumbing down that seems ever more central to the way America's right operates.

American conservatism used to have room for fairly sophisticated views about the role of government. Its economic patron saint used to be Milton Friedman, who advocated aggressive money-printing, if necessary, to avoid depressions. It used to include environmentalists who took pollution seriously but advocated market-based solutions like cap-and-trade or emissions taxes rather than rigid rules.

But today's conservative leaders were raised on Ayn Rand's novels and Ronald Reagan's speeches (as opposed to his actual governance, which was a lot more flexible than the legend). They insist that the rights of private property are absolute, and that government is always the problem, never the solution.

The trouble is that such beliefs are fundamentally indefensible in the modern world, which is rife with what economists call externalities - costs that private actions impose on others, but which people have no financial incentive to avoid. You might want, for example, to declare that what a farmer does on his own land is entirely his own business; but what if he uses pesticides that contaminate the water supply, or antibiotics that speed the evolution of drug-resistant microbes? You might want to declare that government intervention never helps; but who else can deal with such problems?

Well, one answer is denial - insistence that such problems aren't real, that they're invented by elitists who want to take away our freedom. And along with this anti-intellectualism goes a general dumbing-down, an exaltation of supposedly ordinary folks who don't hold with this kind of stuff. Think of it as the right's duck-dynastic moment.

You can see how Bundy, who came across as a straight-talking Marlboro Man, fit right into that mindset. Unfortunately, he turned out to be a bit more straight-talking than expected.

I'd like to think that the whole Bundy affair will cause at least some of the people who backed him to engage in self-reflection, and ask how they ended up lending support, even briefly, to someone like that. But I don't expect it to happen. □



Challenging Putin's Values



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN
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While you can talk about Ukraine until the cows come home, this story is 95 percent about Vladimir Putin and how he has chosen to define Russia's interests. The truth is, Russia and its neighbors need a different definition of Russia's interests. That, however, raises a series of questions: Can Moscow ever define its interests differently under Putin? If not, how do we deter him without also weakening Russia to the point of instability? And if we do induce such instability over time with sanctions, do we know what comes next and will we be better off?

I think America and the European Union have done exactly the right thing in ratcheting up sanctions on Putin, to try to stop him from destabilizing Ukraine further and preventing the presidential elections there on May 25 from producing a legitimate government. But we'd also better be ready for the consequences of success.

When we lived in a world of walls - during the Cold War era - weakening Russia was a strategy that seemed to have only upsides. But in a world of webs, a world that is not only more interconnected but interdependent, the steps we take to make Russia weaker can also come back to haunt us. When the world gets this tightly interwoven, not only can your friends kill you as quickly as your rivals (see Greece), but your rivals crumbling can be as dangerous as your rivals rising (see Russia or China).

Russia still has thousands of nu-

clear warheads that need to be controlled, and hundreds of nuclear bomb-designers. We need Russia's help to control mafia crime, drug trafficking and cyber-crime. And we need a stable Russia to serve as a counterbalance to China, to be a global energy supplier and to provide a social safety net for all its elderly.

The sanctions thus far will not cripple Russia, but, over time, they will sap its strength, and, if widened, will really hurt. Will Putin change? Today's globalization doesn't mean leaders won't do crazy, aggressive or nationalistic things that rattle markets and seemingly defy their economic interests. Putin has already confirmed that. But it does mean that whatever price an autocrat is willing to pay for such behavior will almost always be bigger, and come faster, than anticipated. Look how just our limited sanctions triggered a stampede by the electronic herd of global investors who have pulled more than \$50 billion out of Russia this year. Standard & Poor's just cut Russia's rating to one notch above junk status, raising its borrowing costs. The same day, Russia's central bank boosted a crucial interest rate from 7 percent to 7.5 percent to try to stave off a run on the ruble. Russia's currency has lost nearly 8 percent against the dollar this year, while its stock market is off 13 percent.

Bloomberg News reported last week that: "Russia scrapped bond sales for the seventh time in eight weeks as investors demanded higher yields." That is why S&P added that continued regional tensions could "further undermine already weakening growth prospects." I take no joy in seeing Russia put under economic stress, and we should be ready to consider its legitimate interests in terms of protecting its borders. But the problem today is how Putin defines those interests. It's bogus. After all, what is Ukraine trying to do? Host U.S. nuclear missiles? No. Join NATO? No. It isn't even

trying to become a full member of the EU. It wants to sign an "Association Agreement" that would provide Ukrainian companies more unfettered access to European markets and require them to abide by EU regulations, which Ukrainian reformers believe would help drive more rule of law inside their own country and make it more globally competitive. The Ukrainians want to import EU rules, not NATO missiles! It's actually what Putin should be trying to do for his country, rather than trying to prevent his neighbors from associating with Europe. But Putin is focused on building the power of his state, not the prosperity of his people. And he wants total political control and the right for him and his clique to steal vast sums, while seeking out foreign devils to distract the Russian public. These are not geopolitical interests that we have to respect.

Ukraine is not threatening Russia, but Ukraine's revolution is threatening Putin. The main goal of the Ukraine uprising is to import a rules-based system from the EU that will break the kleptocracy that has dominated Kiev - the same kind of kleptocracy Putin wants to maintain in Moscow. Putin doesn't care if Germans live by EU rules, but when fellow Slavs, like Ukrainians, want to - that is a threat to him at home.

Don't let anyone tell you the sanctions are meaningless and the only way to influence Russia is by moving tanks. (Putin would love that. It would force every Russian to rally to him.) If anything, we should worry that over time our sanctions will work too well. And don't let anyone tell you that we're challenging Russia's "space." We're not. The real issue here is that Ukrainians, as individuals and collectively, are challenging Putin's "values."

We couldn't stop them if we wanted to. They've been empowered by globalization and the IT revolution. Get used to it, Comrade Putin. □

Before Ink Dries on Rules, Soldiers Rush for Tattoos

KIRK JOHNSON

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LAKEWOOD, Wash. - An Army soldier walked into Brass Monkey Tattoo last month and told Dan Brewer, the tattoo artist, to go for it.

"He dropped a thousand bucks," Brewer said, standing in the shop here, about five minutes from the gate of Joint Base Lewis-McChord. Ten hours under the needle later, an ex-girlfriend's name from a

uniforms and insignia - issued March 31 with a 30-day window of unit-by-unit enforcement - has driven a land rush here and at other Army posts to get "tatted," as soldiers call it, while the old rules still applied. About 40,000 active duty and reserve personnel are stationed at Lewis-McChord, about an hour south of Seattle, making it one of the U.S. military's largest bases. "I'm just going to let her do it until I can't take any-

and are documented with a photograph before the deadline.

Hence the rush to get inked. With some superior officers, many of them tattooed as well, giving ample warning as to when those photographs would be taken, soldiers said they have experienced a unique window of opportunity - but also, perhaps, a nudge - to get that next tattoo, or a lot of them.

"I would probably do it

tempt, is not new. Shortly before World War I, military authorities tried to rein in wayward ink with a prohibition on "indecent or obscene" tattoos - mostly naked women in those days - but allowed existing depictions to be altered to meet the new rule, which led to many a discreet grass skirt as cover-up.

The Navy updated its tattoo policies again in 2003, and again in 2006, and with a further update in

Anna Felicity Friedman, a tattoo historian and blogger at tattoohistorian.com, describing her hypothesis about the average soldier or sailor's love affair with skin art.

"People who are in situations of depersonalization, whether it's wearing uniforms, or other ways stripped of the ability to assert their identity, tend to react to this depersonalization by getting tattoos," said Friedman, who is heavily tattooed herself. Prisoners, chefs and athletes are in much the same boat, she believes - all straining to declare difference to a community, or a marketplace, that might otherwise have a hard time telling them apart.

The tattoo economy on the edge of Lewis-McChord is bracing for change, too. Brewer at Brass Monkey, where about 80 percent of the business is military, said the shop's owner was anticipating a big drop in customers after the regulations are fully in place, and was planning a move to Tacoma, about 10 miles north, to be nearer the city's night life and bar scene.

But at South Tacoma Tattoo, just a few blocks away, the tattoo artists said they thought there would be still plenty of skin left to decorate when things quieted down. The new rules do not say anything about chests and backs and other parts of the body always covered by a uniform, they said. And Chandler, the infantryman who was planning out his arm art this week, said he was also studying the rules carefully as to what might push the boundaries of content and good taste. Regardless of the timing question on getting tattooed now, he said, he wants to re-enlist in a few years and does not want any overly racy skin art to hold him back.

So the girl he plans on his arm will be clothed. "A pinup girl, to stay in the regs," he said. "You have to adapt to the Army - the Army doesn't adapt to you." □



Sgt. Ray Stevens gets a tattoo from Skip, an artist at Aces-n-Eights Tattoo and Piercing in Lakewood, Wash., April 28, 2014. New Army regulations set to take effect in May regarding tattoos visible on arms and legs have set off a stampede to parlors near military bases around the country, as soldiers rush to get inked in time for the tattoos to be grandfathered in.

(Matthew Ryan Williams/The New York Times)

previous tattoo had been covered up, and a memorial to six buddies lost in the war in Afghanistan had been inked across the soldier's back and ribs. "It was a good day," Brewer said. The military tattoo has a deep history, with reports going back at least to the Roman legions, historians say. Images of adventure or battle - if not a haunting beauty from the frontiers of Gaul - could be captured forever on a bicep. Declarations of unit loyalty or individuality, or both, could be sealed through rituals of ink and pain.

But now a tightening of the Army's regulations on the wear and appearance of

more," said Spc. Charles Chandler, 22, an Army infantryman, as he pulled up his left sleeve to show the canvas he planned to present to his tattoo artist this week.

The new rules restrict total inkage on arms and legs visible on a soldier wearing short sleeves and short pants. They also limit the size of each visible tattoo to no bigger than the wearer's open hand. But the Army is also generally allowing soldiers to keep the tattoos they had before the effective date of the new rules, as long as they do not violate prohibitions on things like obscenity, racism or extremism

anyway; I'll just do it sooner," said Sgt. Ray Stevens, who came after work Monday to Aces-n-Eights Tattoo and Piercing here in Lakewood for some work on his left forearm. "I like getting tattoos," said Stevens, who is originally from Portland, Maine.

Tattoo artists like Tyrell Barbour, at Stay Fresh Tattoos on Lakewood's main commercial drag, Bridgeport Way, said they had never seen such fat times. "I'm getting hit like no tomorrow," he said. "Especially younger military, but a lot of superiors, too," he added.

Military regulation of tattoos, or at least the at-

tempt - nodding to the modern military of men and women serving together - that tweaks the rules on so-called permanent makeup tattoos, allowed for eyebrows, eyeliner, lipstick and lip liner.

"Permanent makeup shall be in good taste," the Navy's regulations say.

The Marines tightened their personal grooming and appearance regulations in 2010, the Air Force in 2012. All four main military branches prohibit tattoos around the neck. No person with what is called a sleeve - or fully tattooed arm - can become a Marine. "They're asserting an individualistic identity," said